Rockingham Free Public Library

Social Networking Policy

In keeping with the Rockingham Free Public Library's mission to serve the community as an educational, recreational and cultural center for all ages, the Library participates in various Internet social software applications, allowing Library staff and community members to communicate through online networks, thereby providing an immediate link to Library information.

Social software is defined as any website or online application which allows users to share information, and can include, but is not limited to, blogging, instant messaging, wikis & social networking sites, such as Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Blogger and Wordpress. Many sites allow users to become a "friend" or "fan" and to associate their own personal profile with the Library's profile. At any time users may remove themselves or request that the Library remove them from the Library's friends or fan lists.

The Library does not collect, maintain or otherwise use personal information stored on third party sites, unless users grant permission to the Library to contact them (outside the site), for purposes such as program promotion, volunteer opportunities or reference help. Users should be aware that third party websites have their own privacy policies and should proceed accordingly. As with traditional resources, the Library does not act in place of a parent or guardian, and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of this resource.

Posting comments and messages are welcome on the Library's social networking sites. All postings will be regularly reviewed for content and relevancy; postings which contain any of the following will be removed and the person will be barred at the discretion of the library staff from posting any subsequent messages:

- Personal attacks, insults or threatening language
- Obscene or racist content
- Potentially libelous statements
- Plagiarized or copy-written material
- Private or personal information published without consent
- Comments unrelated to the content of the forum
- Hyperlinks to material not directly related to the discussion
- Commercial promotions or spam
- Organized political activity
- Photos or other images that fall in any of the above categories

The Library reserves the right to edit a post for space or content, while retaining the intent of the original post, and reserves the right to reproduce it in other public venues, such as a brochure, newspaper, or Library's website. Identifying information other than first name will be removed unless prior approval is granted by the user.

The Library assumes no liability regarding any participant in any Library-sponsored social networking service and does not endorse or review content outside the pages created by the Library staff. Participation in the Library's social networking services implies agreement with all Library policies, including its *Social Networking Policy, Acceptable Use of the Internet* and *Public Computers Policy*, and the Terms of Service of each individual third-party service. If a user does not agree to these terms they are not to use the services provided.

The role and utility of social networking sites will be evaluated periodically by Library staff and may be terminated at any time without notice to subscribers.