



Winthrop Public Library & Museum
2 Metcalf Square
Winthrop, Massachusetts 02152-3159

Wireless (WiFi) Policy

Wireless internet service is available at the Winthrop Public Library & Museum. Patrons with wireless-enabled devices can connect to the internet for as long as they like, without waiting for a free PC. The Wireless signal can be accessed from anywhere in the facility.

To use this service, patrons need a wireless device that is compatible with the IEEE 802.11b, 802.11g or 802.11n (collectively known as “Wi-Fi”) standards. Such devices include most modern notebook/laptop PCs and Macs, many PDAs, and some cell phones. The library does not loan wireless software or hardware. In order to use our wireless signal, your device must be configured to access it.

Patrons are responsible for knowing how to configure their own wireless devices. However, the following guidelines may help:

- Before changing any settings, first check to see if your device connects automatically. If you do make any changes, write down your original settings so you can revert to them later if you need to.
- Use the software that came with your device to set or verify that the Service Set Identifier (SSID) is WinthropPublicLibrary, that the Wireless Mode (also known as Network Mode or Connection Method) is set to Infrastructure or Access Point, not adhoc, and that the WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) is disabled.
- The device must be set to “use DHCP” and/or “obtain an IP address automatically.”
- If you use Windows 2000 or XP and have multiple adapters, you may need to disable the one(s) you are not using. Windows devices in general may have to be rebooted.
- If your device is a Mac, make sure you have selected the correct “location”.

The library staff cannot help configure your device, nor can the library be held responsible for any changes you make to your device.

The Library's wireless network is protected by a firewall but, it is still possible for information sent from or to your laptop can be captured by anyone else with a wireless device and appropriate software, within the wireless signal's range. When using any network connection,

including wireless, it is recommended that you NOT enable file sharing or print sharing to aid in preventing hackers access to your computer. The Library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment or for laptop configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the Library's network. Using virus protection, spyware protection, a personal firewall, and other measures to protect the information on your laptop is highly recommended, and is the sole responsibility of laptop users. Above all, do not leave your laptop unattended!

The library does not provide direct printing capability for laptops or mobile devices accessing our Wireless system.

When accessing the Internet via our Wireless connection, please remember that although certain screen images may not meet Federal definitions of obscenity, passers-by might view them as unacceptable. This is particularly true if the direction of the screen allows clear/extended viewing by others. These conditions may fall under the current definitions of harassment, and civil action by and on behalf of the victims may be pursued.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: September 9, 2009