Important Tips Regarding Computer & Internet Use

Our public use computers use a Linux operating system and open source software. Most of you will not even notice anything drastically different. You will generally be able to open almost any document that you created using Microsoft products . If you want to save your work & edit it further on a computer with Microsoft products, you will need to make sure you save your work in the right format. If you save it in the openoffice format you will not be able to open it with a Microsoft program. (or if you are saving it to SEND to someone who will need to open it with a Microsoft product, the same applies)

You will need your library card or a guest card to use a computer.

Our public use terminals will have an automated log-in system.

If you are under 18 we do require a signed parental consent form before you may use the internet. If we do not have one on file for you, we can give you the information to take home to your parent or legal guardian. They must review our internet policy and sign the form before you will be allowed to use the internet.

Our computers automatically shut down 15 minutes prior to closing. Please adjust your time frame accordingly.

Please remember that use of the computer is a privilege, not a "right." If it is your desire to visit "questionable" sites--please realize that this is a public venue and not one appropriate for utilizing in such a manner. We realize that the internet is a vast space filled with a variety of content and that it is possible to accidentally stumble upon certain sites that may contain questionable material. If we notice you are on such a site you will be asked to close the site. If you continue to open such sites, however, we will ask you to leave.

It is also important to realize that these computers are public domain. Please log out of all sites carefully if you are visiting places that contain personal information. You can also click on "tools" & "clear private data" before you close out your session. These items are simply pointers; ultimately it is your responsibility to protect your personal information when using a public domain system.