

Charles County Public Library Social Media Policy

Purpose

Social Media is defined as any web application, site, or account created and maintained by Charles County Public Library (CCPL) that facilitates an environment for library staff and users to share opinions and information pertaining to their interests.

Policy

CCPL regards online social media in the same way it regards its other information resources: in accordance with its mission of serving Charles County's needs for learning, literacy, and community connections.

The Charles County Public Library assumes no liability regarding any event or interaction by any participant in any library-sponsored social networking service. It does not endorse or review content outside the pages authorized Charles County Public Library staff created. Participation in Charles County Public Library's social networking services implies agreement with all library policies, including its *Social Media Policy* and *Computer Policy*, and the Terms of Service of each third-party service. If users disagree with these terms, they are not to use the services provided. Please note it is the parents' responsibility to monitor their children's use of social networking sites.

Comments, posts, and messages are welcome on CCPL social networking sites. While CCPL recognizes and respects differences in opinion, library staff will regularly monitor and review all such interactions for content and relevance. The Library reserves the right to disable the commenting feature on its posts or remove individual comments that violate Library policy. All postings that contain any of, but are not limited to, the following will be removed, and the poster will be barred from posting any subsequent messages to library social networking sites:

- Content that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of marital status, religion, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, creed, ancestry, race, or any other protected category
- Personal attacks, insults, or threatening language toward library staff, patrons, or any other parties
- Potentially libelous statements
- Plagiarized materials or posting copyrighted material without permission or authority from the copyright holder upon request of the copyright holder
- Private, personal information published without consent
- Comments and/or hyperlinks unrelated or off-topic to the content of the forum
- Solicitation or advertisements of commercial promotions, services, products, or spam
- Organized political activity
- Photos or other images that fall in any of the above categories

The Library recommends against posting personal information to our social media platforms and is not responsible for personal information that patrons post about themselves.

Library staff will periodically evaluate the role and utility of social networking sites, which may be terminated at any time without notice to subscribers.

By choosing to comment and/or utilize platforms managed by the Charles County Public Library, users of these social media sites agree to these guidelines.