

Ames Public Library Policy**Section: Library Resources****Subject: Social Networking****Board****Approved: 9/10****Reviewed:****Revised: 5/13, 9/15**

Ames Public Library may utilize social networking sites including, but not limited to, blogs, applications, and video sharing, to further its mission to connect library users and community residents to the world of ideas.

Since Ames Public Library's online presence reflects and extends Library programming, the goals of the Library's sponsored social networking sites mirror those found in the [Programs Policy](#).

Ames Public Library participation in a social networking service does not constitute endorsement of the content or views expressed by the participants, including staff. The Library is not liable or responsible for content posted by any participant in a Library-sponsored social networking service or for any event or interaction that takes place through any social networking service. The Library does not act in place of or in the absence of a parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of these services.

Posting in Ames Public Library social networking services implies agreement with all [Library policies](#) and the following guidelines.

Terms of Use Guidelines

Comments posted to Ames Public Library's social networking sites will be monitored and inappropriate content will be removed as soon as possible and without prior notice. The Library reserves the right to remove inappropriate content, including, but not limited to content that:

- Is profane
- Is sexual in nature
- Threatens or defames any person or organization
- Incites violence
- Violates the legal ownership interest of another party
- Promotes or advocates illegal activity
- Is repetitive or duplicative
- Promotes commercial services or products or SPAM
- Promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, genetics, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or intellectual disability, or sexual orientation.
- Is off-topic
- Reveals personally identifying information including, but not limited to: email address, phone numbers, addresses, medical information, etc.
- Is considered organized political activity

The Library disclaims any and all responsibility and liability for any materials deemed inappropriate for posting which cannot be removed in an expeditious and otherwise timely manner.

Any use of the "like" feature between Ames Public Library and a private person does not indicate endorsement of that person's actions or comments.

If a user continues to post inappropriate items after being warned of the violation of the "Terms of Use," that user may be banned from the site.

Expressions of Concern

The Ames Public Library Director and the Board of Trustees welcome feedback from customers. Any customer concerns will be handled promptly and courteously as detailed in the [Expressions of Concern Policy](#).

References

This policy has been developed in concert with the following:

- [City of Ames Social Media Policy](#)
- [City of Ames Terms of Use Guidelines on Facebook](#)
- [Conduct in the Library Policy](#)