

Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

The Dighton Public Library is committed to upholding state and federal statutes regarding confidentiality and protecting the privacy of our patrons, staff, donors and other contacts. The Library's privacy policy is clear: The Dighton Public Library will collect no personal information about you when you visit our website, attend a program or register for a library card unless you choose to provide that information to us. Any information you choose to provide will only be used to improve library services.

Please note that while some social media and electronic content services used by the Dighton Public Library may appear to be a part of the library's website, www.dightonlibrary.org, or at a website under the Dighton Public Library's control, some of these sites are actually hosted by a third party provider. When visiting these third party social media sites and electronic content sites, you are subject to different privacy policies and terms of service.

In accordance with MGL Chapter 4 Section 26 and Chapter 78 Section 7, circulation and registration records identifying the names of library users, addresses, and telephone numbers and the materials borrowed are not part of the public record and are only disclosed for the proper operation of the library.

The intellectual pursuits of individuals using library materials is also considered confidential information regardless of the age of the borrower. Search records shall not be made available to any individual, or agency except pursuant to such process, order, or subpoena as may be authorized under the authority of, and pursuant to, federal, state, or local law relating to civil, criminal, or administrative discovery procedures or legislative investigative power. Dighton Public Library's public Internet computers include software that removes a user's computer history once the computer is rebooted.

Upon receipt of such process, order, or subpoena, the Director will notify the Board of Trustees and consult with the Town Counsel to determine if such process, order, or subpoena is in proper form and if there is a showing of good cause for its issuance. If the process, order, or subpoena is not in proper form or if good cause based on specific facts by a court of competent jurisdiction has not been shown, such defects must be corrected. Library staff should refer all formal requests for circulation or registration records to the Director.

The Dighton Public Library is a partner with the SAILS Library network, which hosts secure patron account information. That is why patrons have to enter their unique library card barcode and pin each time they want to access their account information. SAILS offers a number of opt-in services for library card holders that Dighton patrons can choose to enroll, including but not limited to: receiving notifications by text, email or automated voice calling; the ability to retain reading history; and the ability to pay library fines and fees online. These services can be opted out of at any time.

SAILS has appropriate security measures in place to protect against the loss, misuse or alteration of information that SAILS has collected from patrons. SAILS takes many measures to safeguard user information, but cannot and does not guarantee that every task completed via its network is private. SAILS does not partner with or have special relationships with any ad server companies. SAILS does not set any cookies. SAILS cannot and does not guarantee that every task completed on computers which are connected to its network is private.

Approved by the Dighton Board of Trustees, July 13, 2017