



## **Illinois State Library Wireless Internet Access**

### **Answers to frequently asked questions about the Illinois State Library's wireless network**

The Illinois State Library is pleased to offer free wireless Internet access. Please follow the Illinois State Library's Guidelines of Acceptable Use when working in the Library on your laptop. Here are answers to some questions you might have about using wireless at the Illinois State Library.

#### **What is wireless Internet access?**

**A.** Wireless Internet access uses radio frequency signals to exchange information between your computer and the Internet. No cables are required. Wireless allows library patrons to bring their own laptop computers to the library and to obtain high speed Internet access.

#### **How do I use wireless at the Illinois State Library?**

**A.** The Illinois State Library uses the WiFi standard (also known as IEEE 802.11b and 802.11g). You will need to bring your own laptop computer to the library, and it will need to have built-in WiFi or you will need to install a WiFi network adapter. The Illinois State Library does not provide wireless adapters. Most WiFi equipment will be compatible. However, the library can make no guarantees about the compatibility of your equipment with the library's network.

#### **Will I need any special settings or passwords to connect?**

**A.** No special encryption settings, user names, or passwords are required. Most users can simply bring their wireless-enabled laptop computer to the Library and turn it on. The computer will automatically recognize the wireless network. Users, however, must review and accept the Library's **Acceptable Use Policy** before proceeding to access the Library's wireless network.

#### **Is security an issue when using wireless?**

**A.** Yes, the State Library's wireless network is an open network, and therefore not secure. Your information may not be protected while using wireless, unless you are connected to a web page that employs SSL or SSH encryption.

It is also recommended that you disable file sharing when connected to the Illinois State Library's wireless network. If you do not disable file sharing, other people may gain access to your hard drive and files or misuse your computer.

***The Illinois State Library provides wireless connectivity in this facility as a public service and offers no guarantees or representations that any use of the wireless connection is in any way secure, or that any privacy can be protected when using this wireless connection. Use of this wireless connection is entirely at the risk of the user, and the Library is not responsible for any loss of information that may arise from the use of the wireless connection, nor is the Library responsible for any loss, injury, or damage resulting from the use of the wireless connection.***

***The Illinois State Library also assumes no responsibility for damage, theft, or loss of any kind to the user's equipment, software, data files or other personal property brought into or used at the Library's facilities.***

**What about virus protection?**

**A.** All virus, malware and security protection is the responsibility of the user.

**Are there any restrictions on my use of the Internet?**

**A.** Wireless users agree to abide by the Illinois State Library's General Policies and Guidelines for use of computer equipment in the public service areas of the Illinois State Library.

**Are there power outlets available?**

**A.** There will be some power outlets available throughout the library for laptop use. However, we recommend that you fully charge your battery before coming to the library to use our wireless access. We cannot guarantee that an outlet will be available to you and running power cords across traffic areas is not permitted.

**Can I print while using wireless?**

**A.** There are no printers configured on the wireless network. If you need to print, you will need to save your work to a floppy disk or thumb drive, then log in to one of the Library's public computers and send your print job(s) to the printer. If you are not a State employee engaged in a work-related task, the Library can only provide you with a maximum of 20 sheets of paper for printing. The use of a personal portable printing device is also permitted.

**When is wireless access available in the library?**

**A.** Wireless access is available during regular library hours of the Illinois State Library, and outside regular library hours for approved meetings or functions at the Library. The Illinois State Library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Holidays.

## **Can the library help me configure my computer?**

**A.** No. Everyone's computer is different and you are responsible for knowing how to configure your own equipment. The Illinois State Library cannot be responsible for any changes you make to your computer's settings. If you need additional assistance, you may need to contact the manufacturers of your hardware or software. The Library Staff cannot provide any help beyond this FAQ page.

## **General Configuration Information for Windows 2000/XP**

**NOTE:** The following instructions are general guidelines and require that you understand how to configure and restore the settings of your own computer. It is best to try to use the Internet before attempting any of the changes suggested on this page.

### **Windows 2000 & XP:**

Network Settings:

1. From Control Panel, select "Network and Dial-up Connections" or "Network and Internet Connections > Internet Connections."
2. Right-click on "Wireless Network Connection" or "Local Area Connection" and click Properties.
3. Locate the Internet TCP/IP protocol and access its Properties. If more than one TCP/IP protocol is listed, look for the one associated with your wireless adapter.
4. Select "Obtain an IP address automatically" and "Obtain DNS server address automatically."
5. For XP, right click on "Wireless Network Connection" and select "View Available Wireless Networks." Select the name of the wireless network (**Library Wireless**) and click "Connect."

### **Windows Vista:**

1. In Control Panel, click on "Network and Sharing Center."
2. In the Manage Wireless Networks window, click "Add".
3. Select "Add a Network that is in the Range of this Computer."
4. Select the Network named **Library Wireless**
5. Click "Connect".
6. After you connect to the library's wireless network, you will receive a message informing that you are connecting to an unsecured wireless network. Click "Connect Anyway" to proceed with the connection to the library's wireless network.