

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social software can include any web application or site used by the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library, “the Library,” that facilitates the sharing of opinions and information about library-related subjects and issues. Social software includes such formats as blogs, listservs, websites, social networking sites or posts to community reviews, instant messaging tools, and patron rating of Library materials, which may or may not be hosted by the Library.

The Library uses such social software tools for educational, cultural, civic, and recreational purposes. Library social software tools provide a limited public forum to facilitate the sharing of ideas, opinions, and information about library-related subjects and issues. This type of social software is intended to create a welcoming and inviting online space where library users will find useful and entertaining information and can interact with Library staff and other library users. The Library recognizes and respects differences in opinion, and welcomes comments, posts and messages. The role and utility of social media sites and tools will be evaluated periodically by library staff, and may be terminated at any time without notice to subscribers.

1. Content and comments posted by users do not reflect the views of the Library. For official information and library announcements please visit our website at <http://www.hmmpl.org>
2. The appearance of external links or advertisements on social networking sites the Library participates in does not constitute endorsement by the Library.
3. The Library reserves the right to monitor content before it is posted and to remove messages, images, and postings that it deems, in its sole discretion, to be unlawful or off topic or against the rules listed below. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Library is not obligated to take any such actions, and will not be responsible or liable for content posted by any user in any forum. Library staff is given guidance in posting to and monitoring the Library’s social software sites.

### Rules for Public Commenting

Protect your privacy. Do not post personally identifying information such as last name, school, age, phone number, address, etc. Posts containing, **but not limited to**, the following are against Library rules and, where possible, will be deleted before posting or removed by library staff:

- Obscene content or hate speech
- Personal attacks, insults, harassment, or specific and imminent threats
- Potentially libelous statements
- Content that violates the privacy of another person
- Comments unrelated to the content of the forum
- Hyperlinks to material that is not directly related to the discussion
- Commercial promotions or spam
- Content that promotes or denigrates a particular candidate or political party
- Copyright, trademark and fair use violations
- Duplicated posts from the same individuals
- Improper use of the Library’s name or logo

**Approved and adopted by the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library Board on November 18, 2021.**

**By posting content, the user agrees to the Library's rules and to indemnify the Library and its officers and employees from and against all liabilities, judgments, damages, and costs (including attorney's fees) incurred by any of them which arise out of or are related to the posted content. Parents are responsible for their minor children's use of the Internet.**

*Adapted with permission from the St. Charles Public Library Social Media Use Policy and the Dare County Library Social Network and Media Policy.*