

Athol Public Library  
Social Media Policy

**Definition of Social Media**

The Athol Public Library uses social media to maintain a welcoming online space where the public can learn about, share, and discuss library events and library-related topics. For the purpose of this policy, the library defines social media as any online space to which the library posts content, including but not limited to the library website, social networking websites, media sharing websites (such as Youtube), and business directory websites (such as Yelp).

**Responsibility for Content**

In many cases, the public may post public comments to library social media. We respect diverse viewpoints and encourage thoughtful discussion. The library is not responsible for the content of public comments and has no obligation to remove objectionable comments. The library reserves the right to remove content that is not topically related to the library or its services. Additionally, the library reserves the right to remove:

- Content that promotes discrimination
- Content that constitutes or encourages illegal activity
- Commercial solicitations
- Profane language
- Sexual content or links to sexual content
- Content that violates another party's intellectual property rights
- Private information about an individual shared without that individual's consent
- Content that compromises safety or security
- Content regarding political campaigns and ballot measures
- Libel

The library evaluates information that it posts online, but sharing or linking to content online does not mean that the library endorses or is affiliated with the content or content creator.

Approved by the Board of Library Trustees 10/15/2014