

## Wireless Internet access at the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library

You are invited to explore the Internet using your own wireless-enabled device at the Mansfield/Richland County Public Library. Free access is provided at all Library locations at all times the Library is open.

Wireless Internet access uses radio frequency signals to move information between your laptop computer and the Internet. No cables are required. This allows you to bring in your own computer and get Internet access, and allows the Library to offer more computer access than our existing floor space and wiring currently allows. Use your wireless laptop at chairs and tables in the Library, rather than just at our normal public computer areas.

No special encryption settings are required, however you will be asked to provide an email address. Use the SSID beginning with MRCPL and turn web encryption off. Each Branch location has a unique SSID beginning with MRCPL (MRCPLBELLVILLE, MRCPLBUTLER etc). The Library supports both 802.11b and 802.11g wireless networking specifications. Some settings which may help are:

SSID or Network Name:	beginning with MRCPL
WEP:	disabled
IP or Network Settings:	DHCP enabled (or) obtain IP address automatically
DNS:	obtain DNS automatically
Network Mode:	Infrastructure (or) Access point

### Limitations and Disclaimers

- Only web browsing is allowed. Services other than http/https, such as telnet, secure shell, etc. are not supported.
- No printing is available.
- by using this free wireless service you agree to abide by the Library's Acceptable Use Policy and Guidelines for Internet use (which appears after the log-in screen).
- Since all information moves over open radio frequencies the Library's wireless network is **not secure**. Any information you enter or display, including e-mail, can be captured by anyone with a wireless device and the appropriate software within several

hundred feet. The Library strongly urges you not to enter passwords, PIN numbers, account numbers or other private information while using the wireless network, and cautions that using the wireless network for e-mail may allow other people to read your e-mail. Use web based e-mail that employs encrypted (https) access if you absolutely **must** use e-mail.

- The Library cannot supply technical support or troubleshooting if your equipment does not work with the Library wireless service, beyond the helpful hints that follow in this document.
- The Library is not responsible for any changes you make to your computer in order to use or attempt to use the Library wireless services
- The Library assumes no responsibility for the security or safety of computer equipment you bring into the Library, and users must keep their equipment with them at all times.
- turn off any audible sound if you use your laptop computers in the Library, or use personal headphones.
- signal strength and performance will vary within the Library depending on the location of the equipment that produces the radio signals, so some areas of our buildings may not have wireless service or may have slower internet service.
- Although the wireless internet service is usually available, it is not guaranteed and during times of high use or technical problems the wireless service may not be available.

### Finding Library Hot Spots

WiFi-Enabled wireless locations as of 1/25/2006 include:

- Main Library – main floor area and meeting rooms
- Bellville Branch – main floor area and meeting room
- Butler Branch – main floor area and meeting room
- Crestview Branch – main floor
- Lexington Branch – main floor area and meeting room
- Lucas Branch – main floor area
- Madison Branch – main floor area
- Ontario Branch – main floor area and meeting rooms
- Plymouth Branch – main floor area and meeting room

### Hardware Requirements

- you need a WiFi-compliant 802.11b/g wireless Ethernet device installed in your laptop, or a laptop or device with built-in WiFi
- the Library does not supply laptop computers and you must bring in your own laptop computer in order to use the wireless services
- the Library has a limited number of public tables and seating, and not all seating is within easy reach of electrical outlets, so be prepared to be self-powered. Do not block or cross aisles or floors with

extension or power cords, and do not move chairs to electrical outlets.

- use headphones if you use audio files
  - Most WiFi software and equipment will be compatible.
- However, the Library can make no guarantees as to the compatibility of your equipment with the Library's network, and cannot supply technical support if you have problems.

## Software Requirements

(see below for specific operating system hints)

- use a current version of a web browser, such as Internet Explorer, Safari, Netscape or Firefox
- the Library strongly urges the use of current virus and spyware protection and/or personal firewall software while using the wireless Internet

## General Troubleshooting Hints

If when opening your browser you get the message 'do you want to accept a security certificate', or if you are using a browser other than Internet Explorer, it will be something along lines of 'an unrecognized certificate.'

Always, answer **YES** to this. In some browsers you will be given the option to save the certificate permanently. The **figure below** is the message you would see if using the Internet Explorer browser.



- use the software that came with your computer or wireless card to configure the settings and verify that you have a

connection to the Library wireless services

- **SSID (network name) = MRCPL for the Main Library, MRCPL+Branch name for branches (MRCPLBELLVILLE, MRCPLBUTLER etc).**
- turn off WEP encryption since the Library does not use any special encryption settings.
- You must provide an email address and check the box next to "I accept terms of service" before you can login.
- **Mode or Network Type = Infrastructure** or Access Point (not Ad Hoc which permits other computers to connect directly to you!)
- set your tcp/ip client software to obtain addresses automatically from a server (DHCP)
- don't set your wireless card to connect automatically to any available network (not secure)
- refresh your DHCP address if you have trouble getting connected
- some wireless adapters have a physical switch (very small) that must be turned on in order to connect to the wireless internet
- Most wireless software has an indicator that tells you a signal is being received. Make sure the link quality and the signal strength are both "good". If not, move around the Library to a location that has a stronger signal.
- if you have installed a PFS (Personal Firewall System) you need to make sure that your PFS is not blocking Library wireless internet access. You may need to authorize access or even disable the PFS while you are using this connection.

## Troubleshooting Windows XP/2000

- you will need Administrative rights on your computer to make the following changes
- in XP select **Start -> Control Panel > Network Connections** (depending on the set up this may instead say **Network and Internet Connections**)
- in 2000 select **Start -> Settings > Network and Dial-up Connections**
- click on the icon for **Local Area Connection**
- click on **Properties**
- in the **General Information** tab highlight **Internet Protocol (TCP/IP)** and click on **Properties**
- in the **Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) Properties** box click on **Obtain an IP address automatically** and **Obtain DNS server address automatically**
- in XP click **Wireless Network Connection** and select **View Available Wireless Networks** and select the TPL wireless network
- click **[OK]** and close out all windows by clicking **[OK]**

- If prompted you should restart your computer for the changes to take effect.
- if your laptop computer has previously been on another network, you may need to release your current addresses in order to pick up a new IP address from the Library
- To release and renew IP addresses go to **Start -> Run** and type: **command** and press the Enter key. A command prompt window will appear. Type the following in the command prompt window:
  - ipconfig /release – releases an older ip address. You should get a notice that the address has been released.
  - ipconfig /renew – renews the ip address. After a brief moment, you should be notified that you have a new IP number associated with your NIC card. At this point you should be able to connect.

### ***Troubleshooting Windows 95 and 98***

- you will need Administrative rights on your computer to make the following changes
- select **Start -> Settings > Control Panel** and select **Network**
- Select the NIC card you are using under TCP/IP. If you have multiple TCP/IP components select the one that is in use for your wireless connection.
- if you have more than one adapter, you may have to disable the one you are not using
- Click on the correct card name to highlight it and then click on **Properties**
- in the TCP/IP Properties box click on the **IP Address** tab and click on **Obtain an IP address automatically**
- click on the **DNS Configuration** tab and click on **Disable DNS**
- click on the **Gateway** tab and confirm that there is no **Installed gateway** set, or remove any gateways if they exist (you probably want to copy down any information that you are removing for later use)
- select the **WINS Configuration** tab and select **Use DHCP for WINS resolution**
- click **[OK]** for all windows
- You will be prompted to restart your computer for the changes to take effect. Save any work and click **[Yes]**
- If your laptop computer has previously been on another network, you may need to release your current addresses in order to pick up a new IP address from the Library.
- To release and renew IP addresses: go to **Start -> Run** and type: **WINIPCFG** and press Enter. Click **[OK]**. The IP

configuration window will appear

- click on the **[More Info]** button.
- click on the **[Release All]** button to release the current IP address, then click on the **[Renew All]** button

***Internet Explorer tips*** (depending on your version of IE and OS there may be some variations)

- from the **Control Panel** select **Internet Options** and the **Connections** tab
- for those used to a dial-up connection, make sure **Always dial my default connection** is **off**
- **LAN Settings** should be **Automatically detect settings** and leave the Proxy server setting **blank**

### ***Troubleshooting Macintosh OS 8 & 9***

- select **Apple Menu > Control Panel > TCP/IP**
- connect via **Airport** or other wireless (WiFi) ethernet
- configure **Using DHCP Server**
- leave **Name Server** and **Additional Search** domains **blank**
- apply your changes
- using either the AirPort Control Strip Module > Wireless Network or the AirPort application (Choose Network > Wireless Network) make sure AirPort is ON and select **MRCPL** from the list of available networks

### ***Troubleshooting Apple Macintosh OS X***

- select **Apple Menu > System Preferences > Network** icon
- select **TCP/IP** tab and set the Configure menu to **Using DHCP**
- Above the TCP/IP tab make sure the **Show:** menu is set to **Airport** or other wireless (WiFi) ethernet. If **AirPort** does not show, choose **Active Network Ports** and activate it. Then choose **AirPort** in the **Show** menu.
- leave **Domain Name Servers** and **Search Domains** blank
- click on **Refresh DHCP Address** if available
- click on **Apply Now**
- if you have an AirPort wireless network card installed, look for an icon shaped like a slice of pie on the top right side menu bar. Click on it and select **Turn AirPort On** to complete the set-up for a wireless connection
- using either the AirPort menu or the Internet Connect application, select a wireless network. You should choose **MRCPL for the Main Library, MRCPL+Branch name for branches (MRCPLBELLVILLE, MRCPLBUTLER etc)** as the selection on the menu or in the list of Networks.