

Technology & Network Usage Policy

Purpose

Lansing Makers Network's (LMN) technology resources exist to help us do good things for our community, not to star in an episode of *CSI: Cyber*. This policy, which applies to anyone who connects to our network in any way—members or otherwise—aims to keep our network and space safe, and our mission running smoothly.

1. General Expectations

By using our network, devices, or internet connection, you agree to be a good digital citizen. This means:

- Following local, state, and federal laws while online.
 - Treating technology with the same respect you'd give a borrowed car: careful, responsible, and without any surprise "modifications."
 - Using common sense. If you're wondering "Should I...?" the answer is probably "No."
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2. Acceptable Devices

Let the packets flow! LMN's public Wi-Fi is available, free, and open. Please feel free to bring and connect your laptop, workstation, tablet, phone, smart toaster, or alien artifacts to our network.

Just remember:

- We strive to keep the network up and functioning all the time but sometimes things (maintenance, upstream issues, visits from time-traveling vampire hunters) happen.
 - The Technology Team tries to meet its standard 24-hour notice for planned outages but can't promise it every time. Especially when things beyond our control befall us.
 - We can't be responsible for lost, stolen, broken items; nor acts of God or dog.
 - You are responsible for any activity sourced from your devices, even if it's unknown by you.
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3. No Unauthorized Devices

The above devices are perfectly acceptable. Devices NOT authorized by default include network devices like switches, firewalls, routers or other devices considered "layer 2/3".

You must get approval from our Technology Team (contact details below) before connecting them to our network.

This helps us:

- Keep the network secure.
- Prevent mystery devices from causing chaos.
- Avoid explaining to members why the Wi-Fi is down again...

4. No Sniffing, Snooping, or Shenanigans

Our network is a drama-free zone. The following activities are strictly prohibited:

- Packet sniffing, network scanning, or “just seeing what’s out there.”
- Attempting to access systems, accounts, or data you’re not authorized to use.
- Installing hacking tools, malware, or anything that sounds like it belongs in a hacker movie montage.
- Any activity that could be considered malicious, mischievous, or “for science” (though actual science is encouraged, as long as it doesn’t require violations of our *other* rules).

If your curiosity involves words like *penetration*, *exploit*, or *payload*, please redirect it toward a Cyber Crime Novel Writing group.

That said, we’re makers! Sometimes you need special tools. If a need arises, please reach out and we can discuss special authorizations.

5. No Downloading Copyrighted or Illegal Material

Our internet connection is for work, learning, sharing, helping, and the occasional wholesome cat video, not for:

- Pirated movies, music, games, or software.
- Torrents of any kind.
- “Free” versions of things that definitely aren’t free.

If the FBI would frown on it, so do we. No one wants to deal with those guys.

6. Respect for Organizational Data

We ask users to:

- Keep private credentials and data private.

- Use shared LMN devices as you'd like them used if they were yours.
 - Maintain your own data. Sensitive, personal, or private data should not be stored on LMN devices, such as the shared workstations in the DigiFab area.
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7. Personal Use

Reasonable personal use is fine — emphasis on *reasonable*.

Examples of acceptable use:

- Checking your email.
- Looking up how-tos.
- Downloading properly licensed instructions.
- Watching videos or listening to music while you're doing your thang.

Examples of unacceptable use:

- Streaming a 12-hour 4K nature documentary during a board meeting.
 - Running your side-hustle crypto farm.
 - Anything that makes the network cry.
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8. Enforcement

Violations of this policy may result in:

- Loss of network access.
- A conversation none of us want to have.

Don't be *that guy*.

9. Updates and Changes

Technology changes quickly! We may update our machines, operating systems, software or this policy as needed to keep our systems safe and our community thriving.

Please direct requests, questions, comments, concerns, or recipes for killer oatmeal cookies to the Leadership or Technology Team.

10. Contact information

Technology Team

In the volunteer Discord, you can contact us in “#technology-team”

email: tech-group@lansingmakersnetwork.org

Leadership Team

There's no good place to find the leadership team on discord, so we recommend email:

president@lansingmakersnetwork.org