

## **Internet Access & Safety Policy**

- Internet access at the Library may not be used for unauthorized, illegal, or unethical purposes, regardless of whether the access takes place on Library or personal devices. Users may not send, receive, or display text or graphics which may be reasonably construed as obscene or violent.
- Users may not misrepresent themselves as other users; attempt to gain access to files, passwords, or data belonging to others; or damage or alter software components of any network or database.
- Users may not alter files or modify the configurations of any PC or peripherals. Alteration or modification is considered a violation of computer security and will result in the loss of Internet privileges.
- Library computers may not be turned off, and the system may not be rebooted by any user without the assistance of Library Staff. Users responsible for damage or destruction of the Library's equipment, software, or data may be held liable by the Library for the costs incurred in replacing the equipment, software, and data, and in restoring the system to its former configuration.
- Internet use in the Children's Room is limited to patrons under the age of 13. Internet use in the Main Reading Room is limited to patrons 13 years and over.
- Users may find some content on the Internet to be objectionable or unsuitable. Users, especially children and parents, are encouraged to review resources available at the Library for staying safe on the Internet.
- It is the Library's policy that parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for determining what Library resources are appropriate for their children. Parents should let their children know if there are materials which they do not want them to use. While the Library's Internet access is filtered in order to prevent access to websites which may be graphic in nature and/or harmful to children, no filtering software is completely effective at blocking unwanted websites.
- It is not recommended that users engage in online activities which require them to enter personal information such as credit card numbers, bank account numbers, Social Security Numbers, addresses, or telephone numbers. In addition, it is recommended that patrons refrain from sharing this information when using email, social media, or any other form of direct electronic communications.
- Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete, or current information. Users should evaluate Internet sources just as they do printed publications, questioning the validity of the information provided.
- Misuse of the Library's Internet access or equipment will result in loss of Internet privileges.