

INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

Usage.17

The Internet is an unregulated global entity with a highly diverse and ever-changing user population. The Internet includes materials patrons may find personally offensive, distasteful, controversial or inappropriate; it also provides accurate, valid, up-to-the-minute data, critical to today's modern lifestyle. The Library is not accountable for the accuracy, content, nature or quality of information obtained through the Internet, nor does the Library endorse viewpoints presented on the Internet.

As with other library resources, library staff may assist and guide in the use of this new technology. However, the responsibility of determining what is valuable or appropriate lies with the library patrons or, in the case of minors, with their parents or guardians. Parents and guardians are encouraged to share with their children in the exploration of the resources available through the Internet, and to consult and discuss the attached "*Child's Rules for Online Safety*" which is herein made part of this policy.

In light of the "Code of Conduct" Policy, use of computers or the Internet in ways which violate local, state or federal law may result in sanction or loss of library privilege. Due to the right and need for the J. V. Fletcher Library to monitor compliance with this policy, utilization of the computers that requires privacy of any kind for any purpose is not supported and is prohibited. Use of computers is for educational, Informational, and recreational purposes only. Any utilization which is illegal, criminal or unethical or infringes on the rights or liberties of another is strictly prohibited.

The library's MVLC Internet Service provider does not provide access to newsgroups. Access to web-based Chat rooms is limited to non-subscription sites. The library reserves the right to ask patrons to refrain from displaying computer images which are blatantly offensive and/or inappropriate for public viewing. Blatantly offensive visual or text-based materials constitute potential sources of sexual harassment to other patrons and to library staff and will not be tolerated. The library reserves the right to impose sanctions or loss of library privilege per the "Code of Conduct" Policy for such behavior.

Library staff is available to advise and direct patrons in their information needs, and welcomes the expertise and insight shared by the public. Please see the "*Procedures for Internet Access*" attached.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES: 6/10/96; 1/6/97; 9/8/97; 3/2/98; 8/7/00; 2/3/03; 2/5/07; 1/11/10; 7/9/2018.

Procedures for Internet Access:

- Internet Access is available whenever the library is open
- Users may reserve half-hour blocks by phone or in person at the Information Desk; library staff reserves the right to limit users to half-hour time blocks if patrons are waiting for access to equipment
- Email access is available via web-based email services
- Printouts cost \$0.10/page

Child's Rules for Online Safety:

Courtesy of Larry Magid, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and Interactive Services Association

- ◇ I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' permission.
- ◇ I will tell my parents right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.
- ◇ I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" on-line without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will make sure it is in a public place and bring my mother or father along.
- ◇ I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.
- ◇ I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do, I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the service provider.
- ◇ I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going on-line. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be on-line, the length of time I can be on-line, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.
- ◇ I will not access materials deemed "Harmful to minors"