

## **Internet Acceptable Use**

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The Library provides access to the internet for the recreational and research needs of its patrons. The Library does not provide access to sexually explicit sites. Other web sites that have been determined by the Library's staff as sites that overburden or disrupt the Library's computer network may also be inaccessible.

### *Filtering*

The Library employs the use of filtering software. Filtering software is designed and implemented to support the Library's policies in providing internet access. Patrons who are eighteen years of age and above may request that the filtering software be disabled. The filter may be disabled by the patron or with the assistance of the Library's staff. Staff will not require an explanation for disabling the filter.

The filter will not be disabled for any patron under the age of eighteen. A juvenile may remain in the presence of an adult who has requested the filter be disabled. The adult must remain at the computer during the time that the filter is disabled.

Patrons may not subvert the Library's filter on internet access. Any attempt to do so could result in loss of privileges.

The Library's policies regarding use of its computers and internet access remain in effect when the filter has been disabled.

Some public computers may be designated as "filtered only" at the Library's discretion. The filter will not be disabled on these designated computers.

### *Staff assistance*

Staff can provide limited assistance for basic start up procedures. For further assistance, printed materials are available. Internet training is available at scheduled times.

### *Printing and downloading*

Printing from the Library's computers is available and the charges are posted. Patrons may not print items that do not conform to the Library's Internet Use Policy. Doing so may result in the loss of Library privileges.

Downloading is permitted. Users must provide their own storage media. Downloaded materials will not be retained on the Library's computers. Information downloaded from the internet may contain malicious elements (like computer viruses) that could result in loss of data or damage to other computer equipment. The Library is not responsible for damage to a person's storage media nor for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from the use of the Library's computers.

### *Copyright*

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17 US Code) governs the printing of copyrighted material. The Library is not liable for any infringement by its patrons.

### *Privacy*

The Library does not provide privacy for individual users. The sending or receipt of any information through the internet is at the sole risk of the user.

### *User risks and responsibilities*

The internet offers unlimited global access to information. However, not all sources on the internet provide information that is accurate, current, legal, or philosophically acceptable to everyone. The Library is unable to monitor or control the content of the materials on the internet. Users of the internet are responsible for their own choices. Parents and guardians are responsible for the use of these resources by their own minor children.

Misuse of the Library's computers and/or the internet will result in loss of access. The Library reserves the right to end an internet session at any time.

### *Limits and reservations*

The Library uses automated time-keeping software to track the use of its public computers. A valid Mason County Public Library card is required to access this system. A temporary card number may be generated for patrons who are not eligible for a Mason County Public Library card.

Users are limited to one hour per session but may have up to six sessions per day. The number of sessions may be limited if other patrons are waiting for computers or if a substantial number of the Library's computers are currently in use.

Workstations may be reserved by patrons using the Library's automated software. No other reservations will be accepted.

A maximum of two patrons may use a single computer at one time.