
WINDSOR LOCKS PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.

INTERNET USE POLICY - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INTERNET USE POLICY - Schedule A

This policy sets the guidelines for Internet acceptable use.

The Windsor Locks Public Library disclaims liability and shall not be held liable for any material obtained through the Internet. Use of such information is made at the user's risk.

The Windsor Locks Public Library does not endorse the content of any material obtained from the Internet and denies any liability for the content of any material obtained from the internet.

Parents or guardians of children under 17, not the Library, are responsible for Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children.

Information accessed or entered on the Library's computers is not secure.

The Windsor Locks Public Library does not guarantee successful connections to or within Internet services.

It is not acceptable to use the Internet for any purpose which violates U.S or State laws, to transmit threatening, explicit or harassing materials, or interfere with or disrupt network users, services or equipment. (Refer to Schedule B: Children's Internet Protection Act - *CIPA*)

Illegal acts involving Library computing resources may be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.

The Computer Usage Procedures are posted in the Library.

Computer Usage and Internet Safety Policy

The Windsor Locks Public Library, hereinafter referred to as the “Library” offers free computer/Internet access to all Library users through Library computers connected to the internet. By providing internet and database access, the Library fulfills its mission to enrich the community through its devotion to literary, educational, scientific, cultural and historical purposes.

Because the internet is a vast and unregulated information network, it enables access to ideas, information, images and commentary beyond the Library’s selection criteria and collection development policies. The Library cannot control the information accessible through the Internet and is not responsible for its content.

The Library strives to maintain internet access via Library computers, networks, and wireless access. Time permitting, Library staff will try to assist with basic computer problems. Staff are not able to offer extensive explanations or provide in-depth training. Library staff may also direct users to Library resources, internet resources, or training classes that may help users explore software or wireless devices.

Computer use information, as well as Library cardholder information, is confidential. All files are removed and internet search history is deleted from Library computers at the end of each session.

Computer Usage

Please sign in with your valid Library card to use a computer. All Library users are expected to be courteous to and respectful of other Library patrons. Library workstations are intended for the informational, recreational and educational use of Library patrons. The Library affirms and acknowledges the rights and responsibilities of parents and caregivers to monitor and determine their children’s access to Library materials and resources, including those available through the Internet. Parents or caregivers are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. Parents of children under the age of 12 must remain with their child during their session.

Per page printing fees are collected by the Library in order to cover the cost of printer supplies and maintenance. The Library assumes no responsibility for loss of data, or for damages sustained by any patron connecting their own flash drives or electronic devices to a Library computer, or for any liability that may occur from patron use of a computer or the Library’s network.

Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Schedule B

Practical steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Library's network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. The computer workstations and Library network may not be used for illegal activities. Any activities intended to disrupt network services or equipment, change computer settings, or access restricted data are not allowed. As required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and (c) dissemination and viewing of explicit visual depictions, child pornography, and/or other materials harmful to minors. Copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) protects created works (including email, text, music, videos, web sites, images, programs or data), and describes permissible and prohibited uses of protected works. The violation of these rules may result in either the temporary or permanent loss of computer privileges. The Library reserves the right to end any computer session at any time for any reason.

Internet Filtering

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)] the Library filters all its computers, and all access to the Internet through its network, to protect against access to explicit visual depictions, child pornography, and/or other material harmful to minors, as required by law. Filtering software is by its very nature imperfect, therefore, the Library has chosen to employ the minimum level of filtering that will allow for CIPA compliance. Library patrons should be aware that Internet filtering software installed for CIPA compliance should not substitute for individual judgment and/or parental involvement and oversight.

Library staff will disable filtered Internet access to persons 17 or older who request it for bona fide research or any other lawful purposes.

Established and Approved: January 8, 1997

Last Update: June 26, 2021