

## INTERNET SAFETY AND USE POLICY

The policy of Columbus Public Library is to: (a) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (b) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (c) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]

## LOCAL GUIDELINES

- 1.1 Library Internet access computers are available for public use during normal library hours. Patrons are allowed a number of sessions a day, as determined by the Library Director, generally for up to an hour per session. Guest patrons may have a limited amount of time.
- 1.2 Patrons not eligible for a free library account may receive access by request. For regular use, a Digital Library card is available.
- 1.3 Patrons may bring storage drives for use on library computers. Flash drives are available for purchase for at cost.
- 1.4 Printing costs- refer to Schedule of Fines & Service Fees. Patrons are encouraged to use Print Preview before printing. The library will not be responsible for refunding unwanted pages that print out.

The following applies to both use of the library computers and wireless internet (WiFi):

- 1.5 Misuse of the computer or Internet access will result in the loss of computer privileges.
- 1.6 In the case of a violation involving criminal behavior, the police will be called.
- 1.7 Patrons are cautioned not to reveal personal information over the Internet.
- 1.8 Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, authoritative, factual or complete information. The patron is responsible for verifying the accuracy of any material.

## LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1 In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, all computers have technology protection measures used to block inappropriate information, specifically visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. (See definitions below.)
- 2.2 Minor patrons may not use library computers for viewing, sending or receiving materials which may be determined to be harmful to minors as defined by Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 28-807(6).
- 2.3 Patrons may not use library computers for viewing, sending or receiving materials which may be determined to be legally obscene as defined by Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 28-807(10).
- 2.4 Patrons may not violate licensing agreements and copyright laws or attempt in any way to alter, damage, abuse or sabotage computer equipment or software, alter configurations or install any software.
- 2.5 Library computers may not be used for inappropriate network usage including (a) unauthorized access (hacking) or (b) unauthorized disclosure, use and/or dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

## DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act.

- 3.1 Minor: As used in this policy, any library patron under 17 years of age.
- 3.2 Adult: As used in this policy, any library patron 17 years of age or older.

- 3.3 Technology Protection Measure: The term “technology protection measure” means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:
- A. Obscene, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
  - B. Child Pornography, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
  - C. Harmful to Minors.
- 3.4 Harmful to Minors: The term “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depictions that:
- A. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
  - B. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable to minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals, and
  - C. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value to minors.

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