

Little River Community Library Internet and Computer Use Policy

Internet Use Statement

The Little River Community Library exists to provide materials which communicate experience and ideas. Its function is to assemble, organize, preserve, and make easily available print and non-print material which conforms to the educational, informational, cultural, and recreational interests and needs of the community. The Internet, as a global electronic network of information, allows the library to supplement and compliment its collection.

Internet resources are provided equally to everyone. The library offers commercially filtered and unfiltered computer access. The filtering software will block many sites that may be offensive to some, but may fail to block all materials considered offensive. Users must accept responsibility for determining content. Parents may find that some information on the on the Internet may be unsuitable for their children. As such, the library affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine and monitors their children's use of library materials and resources and upholds and affirms the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected materials. **Youth under the age of 18 must read "My rules for Online Safety" before using the internet.** The library adheres to the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NICPA) which restricts minors from:

- Accessing materials deemed inappropriate/harmful to minors
- unauthorized access (hacking) and other unlawful activities
- unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Parents are encouraged to read Child Safety on the Information Highway (www.safekids.com/child_safety.htm), produced by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Users are encouraged to be good information consumers recognizing that not all sources on the Internet provide current, complete, or accurate information and some sources may be offensive, disturbing, and/or illegal. Because Internet content is continually expanding and changing, and the Internet is an unregulated medium, users are encouraged to evaluate the validity and value of information obtained through the Internet. The library has no control over the accuracy of information accessed or acquired from the Internet nor can it be held responsible for its content or for any damages arising from its providing access to the Internet.

Terms of Internet and Computer Use

Public access computers are located where they can be monitored by staff for assistance and security. The Librarian will assist users in accessing the Internet and offer general searching suggestions and answers to basic questions.

However, the Librarian cannot provide in-depth computer training.

All users will sign a Computer Use Agreement. Registered patrons may use the public access computers. One time use of the computer and Internet workstation by a visitor to the library does not require library user registration, but does require a signed agreement to this Internet and E-mail Access Policy.

Users are expected to check in with the Librarian before accessing the computers and close all applications at the end of their session.

All users must abide by the Little River Community Library Internet and Computer Use Policy. The Librarian is authorized to revoke a users Internet and computer privileges for failing to use the computer stations responsibly, as defined in this policy. **Youths: *the first violation will result in two weeks suspension, the second violation will result in two months suspension, and the third violation will result in complete loss of computer and Internet privileges.*** **Adults: *the first violation will result in two months suspension; the second violation will result in complete loss of computer and Internet privileges.*** Users may appeal the loss of Internet and/or computer use privileges by following the library's appeal process. Using library resources for illegal activities may also be subject to prosecution.

Rights

Users are encouraged to use the Internet for research and education purposes.

Users may use Internet to access only WEB hosted e-mail accounts such as Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.

Adult users may print copies to the network printer the first 3 copies of black and white are free; then 10 cents per page. Color prints are free for the first 2 pages then 25 cents per page.

Users may purchase a disk (.50 cents apiece) at the front desk for use "in house" on the library's computers. Use of personal disk or personal software on library's computer is prohibited. Disks may be left with the librarian to remain on library premises for future use. Disks that are removed from the library may not be reused.

Responsibilities

Users are expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and local library policy.

It is not permissible to use the Internet to:

- send threatening or harassing material

- display, view and/or print materials legally defined as child pornography and/or obscene. (KSA21-3516, KSA 21-4301 et seq., 18 U.S.C. 1460 et seq., and 18 U.S.C. 225.)
- transmit chain letters, broadcast letters, or any form of junk mail.
- transmit computer viruses.
- print and/or copy copyright-protected materials in any format. (Copyright Lay of the United States- Title 17, U.S.C.)
- “hack” or gain unauthorized access to local and/or remote computer systems.
- Participate in chat-rooms.
- Download files to a library computer hard-drive, network drive or disk.
- Violate software license agreements.

Users are expected to treat library materials and equipment including hardware, software, printers and all property belonging to the Little River Community Library in a responsible manner. **Changes to software settings are not allowed. This includes but is not limited to adding or adjusting bookmarks, history, home pages, and/or icons. Users may not interfere with the operation of any computer by altering, damaging, or destroying data or programs.** Immediately report any problems with equipment or materials to the Librarian.

Availability

Users have access to four internet computers. Users must sign up to use the Internet on a next-available-terminal basis. Terminals will not be “reserved” for persons who are not in the immediate vicinity when their name is called, and telephone reservations will not be taken. **Access sessions will be limited to 30 minutes per day, unless otherwise authorized by the Librarian in charge.** Users must end their sessions and leave the terminal when asked to do so by authorized library staff.

Due to changing federal, state and local laws, the library reserves the right to make any changes in this policy at any time.

Adopted by the Little River Community Library Board on 8-10-04.