

Internet Use Policy

ECL provides access to the Internet to enhance the information and learning opportunities for the citizens of the library's service area. While it enables access to a wealth of information that is personally, professionally and educationally enriching, it also opens doors to materials that may be offensive, disturbing, false, and/or illegal. Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. As the Internet is an unregulated medium, users need to be good information consumers and question the validity of the information found on the Internet. ECL does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The library neither censors' access to materials nor protects users from information they find offensive. Library users access the Internet at their own discretion, and they are solely responsible for any access points they reach. Parents and guardians of minor children, not the library or staff, are responsible for their child's use of the Internet through the library's connection.

Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Minors are defined in this policy as children and young people under the age of 16 years.

Disclaimer: The Library having installed and enforced the operation of filtering software in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, will have no liability for damages related to the operation of, or failure of, the filtering software, or for its circumvention by users.

Technology Protection Measures: The Library, either by itself or in combination with its Internet access provider, will install filtering software or other technologies on all library computers with Internet access, and will enforce the operation of same during any use of those computers, to prevent minors from accessing visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors (as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.) Filtering software is not foolproof. It diminishes the likelihood that searchers will inadvertently retrieve text or images that they may find offensive but do not eliminate that possibility. Technology protection measures may be disabled by a library staff member, as necessary, for bona fide research or other lawful purposes by people aged 17 and older.

Rules of Conduct

- Only those with a valid ECL card may use the library's internet computers. The Library has two guest passes for those needing temporary usage.
- Internet access will be denied if patrons have overdue books or unpaid fines, until books are returned, or fines are paid.

- Parents of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the Internet through the library's connection. Children under the age of 12 must have a parent or guardian with them when using the library's Internet connection.
- Two persons may share one access session if their behavior or conversation does not disturb other users or Library staff.
- Library patrons are expected to comply with all local, state, and federal laws while using the Internet including but not limited to those concerning copyright, fraud, privacy or obscenity.
- Patrons shall not create and/or distribute computer viruses over the Internet
- Installation, downloading, or modification of software is prohibited.
- Patrons agree not to make any changes to the setup or configuration of the software or the hardware.
- Patrons will respect the privacy of other internet users and will refrain from attempting to view or read material being used by others. Unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information regarding library users, including minors, is prohibited.
- Patrons may use the Internet for the receipt and transmission of electronic mail (e-mail) if they use a free e-mail service which will establish and maintain an account for them; the library is unable to manage e-mail accounts for any organizations or individuals.
- Patrons are responsible for all printing charges incurred.
- Patrons agree not to incur any costs for the library through their use of the Internet service.
- Patrons may save Internet material to a USB data key (flash drive). The patron is responsible for bringing their own USB data key.
- Use of an Internet workstation is limited to an hour. The patron may request to extend their session if no other people are waiting for a computer.
- Internet users accompanied by children will be asked to terminate their session if the children create disturbance in the library.
- Computers must be shut down at least 15 minutes before library closing time.
- Library staff are authorized to take prompt and appropriate actions to enforce the Rules of Conduct, and/or prohibit use by people who fail to comply with the Internet Use Policy as stated or implied herein

17. Internet Use Agreement

- I understand and will abide by ECL's Internet Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense.

Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked, and appropriate legal action may be taken.

- As the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 12, I accept full responsibility for my child's use of ECL's Internet service and agree to oversee my child's use of this service. I understand that the library's access to the Internet is intended and designed for educational and informational purposes. I will not hold the library responsible for materials or information acquired by my child with the library's Internet service. I hereby give permission for my child to use the library's network for Internet access.