

IV. INTERNET USE

A. Internet Use Policy (*Amended 05/11/17; Last Reviewed 05/10/18*)

1. Purpose

The purpose of public access to the Internet is to further support the community's informational, learning, cultural, and recreational needs.

2. Selection

The library will select and organize resources available online by applying the same basic standards that are used in selection of other materials, and provide links from the library home page. Access is not limited to these sites.

3. Use

a. The Washington Public Library can assume no responsibility for accuracy of any information accessed through the Internet, nor can we control or monitor information accessed. Due to the visibility of computer monitors in public areas of the library, the library may install content filtering software on public access machines in an effort to restrict access to pornographic images. Every effort will be made to insure that access to all other information including educational material that includes images of the human body and information surrounding issues of sexuality and sexual health.

b. The Washington Public Library asserts that it is the responsibility of the parent to monitor and guide a child's information selection, and will not take any responsibility for monitoring or controlling a child's access to information. Parents may request that their minor child, who is under the age of 10, be restricted from using Internet computers. A note will be added to the child's account, though no guarantee can be made that the child will never have access to Internet-enabled devices or computers.

c. The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) governs the making of reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using the library's Internet or wireless Internet connection is liable for any infringement.

4. Unacceptable Use

a. The Washington Public Library reserves the right to restrict or terminate the Internet use privileges of any individual not practicing responsible use of the Internet.

b. Unacceptable use includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Any use of Washington Public Library computers or Internet access which is disruptive to other patrons or library staff in any way, including viewing pornographic materials.
- Attempting to modify or gain access to library settings, files, passwords, or data.
- Downloading copyrighted materials from the Internet without legal consent.
- Damaging or destroying equipment, software, or data belonging to the library.
- Disrespecting the privacy of other users.

c. Violation of the Internet Use Policy may result in the following consequences:

- First offense – Termination of session and loss of computer privileges for one day.
- Second offense – Denial of computer privileges for one month.
- Third offense – Denial of computer privileges, for a period of time determined by the Board.

B. Wireless Use Policy (*Amended 05/10/18*)

1. The Library provides wireless Internet access to give access to its digital collection, even when the physical library is closed.
2. Library staff cannot be responsible for assisting users in making changes to wireless devices or connecting devices to our wireless network.
3. The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) governs the making of reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using the library's wireless Internet connection is liable for any infringement.
4. The Washington Public Library can assume no responsibility for accuracy of any information accessed through the Internet. Please use the Library's wireless Internet responsibly.
5. **WARNING:** This free service is an open network provided for patron convenience and its use is at the user's own risk. It is available to the general public, and is **NOT INHERENTLY SECURE**. The Library cannot and does not guarantee the privacy of data and communication while using the service. By using this service, the user acknowledges and knowingly accepts the potentially serious risks of accessing the Internet over an unsecured network.
6. Access to the Library's wireless Internet network is provided **AS AVAILABLE**. The Library provides no guarantee that the service will be uninterrupted or error-free, and cannot be held liable for any direct or indirect damages that result in any way from the user's ability or inability to use the network.