3.20 INTERNET ACCESS

1. The Library offers filtered Internet access on its computers, and via an unsecured wireless network. The Library cannot and does not guarantee that a filter will always block objectionable sites. Parents and guardians of minor children are responsible for their children’s use of the Internet through the Library’s connection.

2. The Library assumes no responsibility for the availability, content, quality, accuracy, or currency of Internet resources. It is necessary for all library users to cautiously analyze data and information sources, whether printed or electronic, before accepting their validity. The responsibility of the Library is to provide access to information, not to endorse it.

3. The Library’s computers are subject to access by law enforcement authorities acting through state or federal law. The Library cooperates in the prosecution of violations arising out of use of its computers for illegal purposes and activities. Websites that contain content classified by software as Violence/Racism/Hate, Nudity, or Pornography may be categorically blocked. Library staff has the discretion to turn off filters upon request when the filter is blocking searches, to enable access for bona fide research or for another lawful purpose.

4. The Library requires that patrons using Library or personal computers, wired or wireless, do so within the guidelines of acceptable use. Exposing Library staff or patrons to images, which may be deemed objectionable or obscene may result in the revocation of Library privileges. Library staff is authorized to terminate any patron’s session or revoke a patron’s computer privileges if a patron fails to comply with this policy. Illegal acts involving Library resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities. Patrons will be given a verbal warning of unacceptable computer behavior and may then have their privileges revoked after further incident.

   Additional unacceptable activities:
   - Use of electronic information networks for any purpose that results in the harassment of other users;
   - Destruction of, damage to, or unauthorized alteration of the Library computer equipment, software, or network security procedures;
   - Use of electronic information networks in any way that violates a Federal or State law;
   - Use of electronic information networks in any way that violates licensing and payment agreements between the Library and network or database providers;
   - Unauthorized duplication of copy protected software or violation of software license agreements;
   - Violation of system security;
   - Behaving in a manner that is disruptive to others.

5. The Library prohibits the use of personal software on its computers.

Adopted by the Niles Public Library District Board of Trustees 4.26.00
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