

## INTERNET USE AT THE HUSSEY-MAYFIELD MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

1. Use of the Library's Internet connection constitutes agreement with the Library's Internet Use Policy.
2. The Library allows all patrons, regardless of age or residency, to access the Internet while in the Library if they have an active library card and their password, a one-time use pass, or a wifi-enabled personal device. Parents of minors (age 17 and younger) who do not wish their minor to use the Internet at the Library, or use it only with adult supervision, will be responsible for enforcing this with their minor children. *Library staff members are not responsible for monitoring Internet use by minors.*
3. Filtering software is being used on all Library Internet connections where patrons and staff can access the Internet, with the exception of staff computers that may not properly function as needed with filters applied. No filter is 100% effective nor can filters prevent access to ALL undesirable images or text on the Internet. The *best and most reliable filter* for a minor is the presence of a parent or caregiver.
4. An adult [age 18 and over] may, through a written request, ask to have the filter disabled in order to access the filtered information for bona fide research or other lawful purposes. After researching requests, IT or Management Staff will determine whether such requests will be approved. Action on requests may take up to 48 hours, depending on availability of IT or Management Staff. Ask a Librarian for assistance.
5. There is no expectation of privacy for Internet users in the Library.
6. At the discretion of Library staff, revocation of Internet / computer privileges for Library patrons may occur. Violations that result in revocation of privileges may include, but are not limited to:
  - Accessing, for any purpose, sites that are or might be considered obscene or contain pornographic material.
  - Attempting to reconfigure or change the set-up of a computer.
  - Violating copyright laws and/or using the intellectual property of another individual or organization without prior permission.
  - Using the internet to bully or harass others.
7. The terms of any revocation of use by a patron will be set and communicated by Library Management.

### **Legal Use**

Patrons and staff of all ages will not use Library computers for any illegal purposes.

### **Warning about Internet Usage Confidentiality**

Electronic communication carried on via the Library's Internet service should not be considered confidential. Evidence of illegal activity may prompt the Library to report such activity to authorities.

### **Display/Dissemination of Sexually Explicit Materials**

Use of Library Internet access stations to display or disseminate obscene or pornographic material is prohibited. Violators of this policy may have Internet / computer privileges revoked. Library management will determine what matter is inappropriate in the Library.

### **Time Limits per Day**

Initial use of a Library Internet station is 120 minutes and will be on a first come, first served basis. Additional use beyond this time limit by an individual will be allowed based on availability and whether other patrons are waiting.

### **Courtesy**

Computers need to be used in a responsible manner. Please refrain from overuse of connect time to the exclusion of others, and use that might be disruptive to others or use of any computing resource in an irresponsible manner. Users are asked to use headphones when accessing websites or learning tools that have audio.

### **Unacceptable Use**

Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Illegal activities like viewing, displaying, or transmitting obscene or pornographic materials as defined by the State and/or Federal governments.
- Transmission of harassing, threatening, or libelous material to any person
- Destruction of or damage to equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library or other users
- Disruption or unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications or unauthorized copying of copyright-protected material
- Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking"
- Violation of computer system security
- Unauthorized use of computer accounts, access codes, network identification numbers assigned to others or disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information, including, without limitation, the dissemination of any such information regarding minors.
- Use of computer communications facilities in ways that unnecessarily impede the computing activities of others

### Sanctions

Violations of the Library policies described in this document will be dealt with in a serious and appropriate manner. Illegal acts involving Library computing resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities.

### Children's Internet Protection Act

The Library's Use Policy is predicated on requirements outlined in the federal Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA") <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act>.

### Revision of the Policy

The Library Board reserves the right to amend this policy at any time without notice. Further, the Board delegates the right to Library staff to inspect or observe the use made of Library equipment, software and other resources for purposes of enforcement of this policy.

### Disclaimer

The ability to access information on these networks provides a potential wealth of material that is positive and enriching, while also enabling access to materials that may be deemed offensive, disturbing, or possibly illegal. The Library will help identify starting points for searches that are appropriate to the Library's mission.

Since the Internet is a global electronic network, there is **no regulatory control** of its users or content. This includes electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications. The Internet and its sources may contain controversial material. The Library cannot censor access to material or protect users from offensive information **beyond the capabilities of the filter**. Parents and guardians of minors must assume responsibility for a **child's** use, safety and security while using the Internet through the Library's connection.

The Public Library does **not** serve *in loco parentis* (in place of a parent). Library staff cannot act in the place of parents in providing constant care and supervision of **children** as they explore the Internet. The responsibility for what **children** read or view on the Internet rests with parents or guardians.

Parents and minors are encouraged to review [www.netismartz.org](http://www.netismartz.org), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's online Internet Safety education tool for all ages for further information about Internet safety.

Library staff cannot control the availability of information links that often change quickly and unpredictably. Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete, or current information. Users need to be informed consumers and question or confirm the validity of the information available on the Internet. The Library does not select the material on the Internet and has no means or statutory authority to assure that only constitutionally protected material is available on the Internet.

The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library.

*Access, use, or dissemination of information via the Internet in the Library is the responsibility of the user. In the case of children, it is a joint responsibility of the user and the parent or guardian.*

### **Limitation of Liability**

The **reader of this policy** acknowledges that he/she has read and understands the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library Internet **Policy**. The **reader** further acknowledges and agrees that the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library assumes no liability for any loss or damage to the user's data or for any damage or injury arising from invasion of privacy in his/her computer accounts, programs, or files.

Approved and adopted by the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library Board on July 21, 2004;  
Revised July 18, 2005, Jun 19, 2006, June 18, 2007, June 19, 2008, June 18,2009, July 16, 2009,  
June 17, 2010, June 16, 2011, August 18, 2012, August 12, 2013, August 20, 2015, August 18, 2016,  
August 12, 2017, August 16, 2018, September 19, 2019, October 15, 2020, August 19, 2021,  
September 15, 2022, September 21, 2023.