INTERNET ACCESS

The library staff cannot control a user’s access to Internet resources.

RESPONSIBILITY OF LIBRARY STAFF AND USERS

Library staff will not monitor an individual’s Internet use, except for length of use in order to ensure equal opportunity of access for everyone. The user, or the parent of a minor, is responsible for his or her Internet session at all times.

The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session that disrupts library services if that use involves behavior that violates the library’s policies. Please refer to “Unacceptable Uses of Computers” for further details.

As with all library resources, the Library affirms the right and responsibility of parents/guardians, NOT library staff, to determine and monitor their minor children’s use of the Internet. (Minors are defined in this policy as children and young people under the age of 18 years.) Parents are responsible for their minor children’s use of the Library’s resources and facilities. Parents who believe that their children cannot responsibly use the library’s Internet access are requested to monitor their children’s Internet use.

DISCLAIMERS

While the Library endeavors to provide access to information of the highest quality, the library specifically disclaims any warranty as to the information’s accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, usefulness or fitness for a particular purpose.

The library will have no liability for direct, indirect or consequential damages related to the use of information accessed through the library’s Internet service.

Since software and information downloaded from any sources, including the Internet, may contain computer viruses, users are advised to utilize virus-checking software on their home computers. The library is not responsible for damage to users’ disks or computers or for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from use of the library’s computers.

UNACCEPTABLE USES OF COMPUTERS

While computer use is not monitored, among the uses that are considered unacceptable and which constitute a violation of this policy are the following:

1. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Transmitting of offensive or harassing messages; offering for sale or use any substance the possession or use of which is prohibited by law; viewing, transmitting or downloading pornographic materials or materials that encourage others to violate
the law; downloading or transmitting confidential, trade secret information, or copyrighted materials. Even if materials on the networks are not marked with the copyright symbol, users should assume that all materials are protected unless there is explicit permission on the materials to use them.

2. **Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property.** Engaging in defamation (harming another’s reputation by lies); uploading a worm, virus, “trojan horse,” “time bomb” or other harmful form of programming or vandalism; participating in “hacking” activities or any form of unauthorized access to other computers, networks, or information systems.

3. **Uses that jeopardize the security of the computer network or other networks on the Internet.** Disclosing or sharing the user’s password with others; impersonating another user; using one’s own software programs on the library’s computers; altering the Library’s computer settings; damaging or modifying computer equipment or software.

4. **Uses that compromise the safety and security of minors when using e-mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications.** Minors under age 18: Giving others private information about one’s self or others, including credit card numbers and social security numbers; arranging a face-to-face meeting with someone one has “met” on the computer network or Internet without a parent’s permission.

5. **Uses that Violate Confidentiality of Information.**
The New Jersey Confidentiality of Library Records Law (NJSL 18A:73-43.2) prohibits unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information regarding Library users, including minors. Personally identifiable information about users may not be disclosed or used in any way, except to law enforcement authorities as provided in the law. Users should be aware, however, that due to the technical difficulties involved in providing absolute security, transactions and files may become public.

**RESPONSE TO VIOLATIONS**

The user’s access to the Library’s computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. A user violates this policy by his or her action or by failing to report any violations by other users that come to the attention of the user. Further, a user violates this policy if he or she permits another to use his or her account or password to access the computer network and Internet. Failure to comply with this policy and its procedures will result in the forfeiture of the user’s right to access these computers. Such is the case the user will no longer have computer privileges for one day or up to one year as determined by the Library Director and the Library Board of Trustees.