

Marlboro County Public Library System

Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

Use of the library's internet is in accordance with the Library Card Registration Policy. Providing access to the Internet is in keeping with the Library's mission statement to continually identify, evaluate, and respond to the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of all residents of Marlboro County. The Internet allows users to connect to vast networks of information, resources, and ideas outside of the library. The Library has no control over these resources nor does the Library have complete knowledge of what is on the Internet. Information on the Internet may be reliable and current or it may be inaccurate, out-of-date, or unavailable at times. The Internet and its resources are always changing. Some material on the Internet may contain items that are illegal, inaccurate, defamatory, and potentially offensive and/or disturbing to some people.

Internet use will be managed in a manner consistent with the Library's Code of Conduct. Users may not:

- Create or maintain personal, organizational, or business accounts (e.g., web pages).
- Use their own software or diskettes on the Internet workstations.
- Download or install any software (e.g., "plug-ins") to the Internet workstation.
- Bypass or disable the Library's web filtering software or instruct or demonstrate to another user how to bypass the Library's web filtering software.
- Damage or attempt to damage equipment; alter or attempt to alter software configurations.
- Attempt to gain unauthorized access to or cause disruption to the Library's system or any other computer system.
- **Display or send obscene (as defined by S.C. Code 16-15-305) images, messages, or files.**
- Violate copyright laws or software licensing agreements.
- Violate state, federal, or local laws or regulations.

Minors must be at least **15** years of age to use the public computers independently. In addition, persons **under the age of 17** must have parental permission to access the public computers and all other means of access to the World Wide Web, including wireless connectivity. **Children under the age of 15 must be sitting beside their parent/guardian and must be directly supervised by them to use the public computers.** There is inappropriate material on the Internet that children should not have access to. The use of e-mail, chat rooms and social networks such as Facebook may provide access to inappropriate material for children. It is not safe to give out personal information or personal addresses. There is filtering software in place but it may not filter out all undesirable content. Parents are advised to monitor their children's access to the Internet by any means, including to electronic mail, chat rooms, and social networking sites. Monitoring software is installed on computers so that library staff can

see what sites are being accessed. Also, monitors are deliberately placed facing the circulation desk so staff can see what the public is doing. Any minor violating proper usage will lose the privilege of using public computers or other devices except those located in the children's area of the library that do not have Internet access. **The Library retains the right to ask for proof of age/identification. Staff will take appropriate action as they become aware of violations. Violations of these rules may result in a loss of access as well as appropriate legal action. Use of the library's internet is in accordance with the Library Card Policy. All users must have a library card on file.**

Adult User Agreement:

As a user of the Library's public access to the Internet, I understand and will abide by the Acceptable Use Agreement. I hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules. **A signed library card agreement indicates your acceptance and understanding of the Library's Internet Acceptable Use Policy.**

Parental Permission Agreement:

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor child named below, I have read and agree to the Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that some material on the Internet or World Wide Web may be objectionable, but I accept the responsibility and agree to allow my child age fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) to use the Internet independently by different means of access. I agree to accompany and stay with my child under fifteen or allow my child to use the Internet or World Wide Web with the adult who accompanies him/her to the library. I am aware of the dangers and have instructed my child not to give out personal information on any site.

A signed library card agreement shows your acceptance and understanding of the Library's Internet Acceptable Use Policy. The signing parent or guardian expressly assumes all responsibility for the use of the Internet by his or her child and agrees to hold the Marlboro County Public Library harmless from any and all liability that may occur from the use.