Normal Public Library - Public Use of the Internet Policy

The Normal Public Library provides access to the Internet and encourages its use to enhance the level of services and resources available to our community in accordance with its mission. The library does not offer Internet service as a substitute for other information sources, but as an additional choice among the diverse resources available. The Internet links individuals to the wider world of information exchange that has become a common medium of shared knowledge.

Internet access connects the Normal Public Library to the global community. The content of the Internet is not regulated or managed by traditional rules or laws of a single entity. The library does not, and cannot, control the information available on the Internet. Information found on the Internet should be carefully evaluated for its reliability, accuracy and currency. Library staff may provide limited assistance to users with their Internet information needs, as time and staff knowledge permits. Library patrons should be aware that an online Internet session can easily be viewed and heard by others.

I.   The library requires that patrons use the Internet in a responsible manner that respects other individuals and protects the shared resources of the community.

- Patrons using the Internet must comply with all applicable municipal, Illinois, and Federal laws and regulations and all library policies.
- Patrons using the Internet must respect the rights, dignity, privacy, and convenience of others.
- Use of the library's workstations to access Internet sites that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors is prohibited.
- Parents are responsible for supervising their minor children's use of the Internet at the library.
- Activities that compromise the security, efficiency, or condition of the library's computer resources are prohibited.
- Failure to comply with the requirements of this policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including the loss of Internet or library privileges.

II.   The library disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to the Internet or use of information obtained through the Internet, or any consequences thereof.

- The library is not responsible for Internet content or its form of presentation.
- The library cannot guarantee the confidentiality of communications or transactions made on the Internet.
- The library is not responsible for any direct or indirect damages or charges incurred during use of the Internet at the library.

III.   The library will establish procedures to assist staff and patrons in the use of the Internet and to maximize the availability of the shared computer workstations.

IV.   User Acceptance

- Use of any of the Normal Public Library's computer resources signifies the user's acceptance of the library's policies and procedures related to computers and Internet resources.

Amended August 26, 2009