

Topinabee Public Library Public Computers Policy (revised 11-11-14)

Acceptable Use Policy

The Library allows access to a variety of electronic resources. This includes the internet. The internet stations also provide access to a variety of office software. No stations provides supports for all file types, browser plug-ins, or internet technologies. The Library recognizes this is a dynamic environment with content that constantly changes.

TOPINABEE PUBLIC LIBRARY neither has control over resources offered through the internet nor has complete knowledge of what is on the internet. Information on the internet may be reliable and current or may be inaccurate, out-of-date, and unavailable at times. Some content may be offensive. Library users access the internet at their own discretion. The internet is not governed by any entity, so there are no limits or checks on the kind of information contained there. Only a user can decide on the accuracy, completeness, and currency of the content.

Consistent with the LIBRARY PRIVACY ACT, MCL 397.601 et seq. ("Privacy Act") and this ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY, TOPINABEE PUBLIC LIBRARY respects the privacy of patrons when they use a Library computer. The Library reserves the right, however, to monitor a patron's use of Library computers for compliance with this ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY. Although the library shall not retain a record of a patron's use of a Library computer beyond 24 hours, the Library may retain such a record for any investigation and determination of a potential or actual violations of this Policy (including appeals). In particular, and without limiting the foregoing, Library staff may produce a screen shot of a Library computer for evidentiary purposes if a Library staff member has a reasonable suspicion that a patron is using the computer in violation of this ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY. Any record of a patron's use, including a screen shot, shall be retained by the Library only so long as appropriate for any investigations and determination regarding a potential or actual violation. By accepting this Policy prior to using a Library computer, a patron's consenting to monitoring of the patron's use of the Library computer (including screen shots).

Filtering

In accordance with Federal and State law (the children's Internet Protection Act, 47 USC Sec. 254 and 20 USC Sec. 101, and Sec. 6 of the Privacy Act), all Library computers with internet access are Filtered. Note, however, that NO FILTER IS 100% EFFECTIVE. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for their minor child's reading, listening, and viewing of Library material, including the Internet.

Compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires filters that block access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography, as defined by 47 USC Sec. 254. CIPA also requires protection against access by patrons under age 18 to visual depictions that are harmful to minors, as defined by 47 USC Sec. 254. A patron who is at least 18 years of age may request the disabling of software used to filter visual depictions on a computer used by that patron, provided that he/she will use the unfiltered computer for bonafide research or other lawful purposes. LIBRARY STAFF WILL INQUIRE INTO THE REASON FOR DISABLING THE FILTER.

Violations

The Library's computers, network, and Internet connection may not be used for any illegal activity or in an unauthorized manner in violation of this ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY. Illegal acts will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. Users violating this ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY will be given TOPINABEE PUBLIC LIBRARY CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY.