

## Internet/Public Access Computers

To comply with the CIPA [Children's Internet Protection Act (Pub. L. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h))] the Middlebury Public Library has installed technology protective measures on all of its Internet accessible terminals. The technology protective measures help to protect minors (anyone under the age of 17) against access to visual depictions deemed "obscene," "child pornography," or "harmful to minors."

The term "obscene" as defined in 18 USC Section 1460

The term "child pornography" as defined in 18 USC Section 2256

The term "harmful to minors" as defined in 47 USC Section 254[G]

The Middlebury Public Library shall provide access to the Internet through one or more of its public access workstations, subject to the guidelines set forth below.

### Guidelines for Use

#### A. Permitted Access and Use

1. All resources available on the Internet with the exception of those items listed in Prohibited Access and Use noted below.
2. Parents or guardians, not the Library or its staff, are responsible for the Internet information selected or accessed by their children. Parents and guardians are advised to supervise their children's computer use. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure the safe and appropriate use of the Internet. The use of technology protective measures should not be viewed as a substitute for parental and/or guardian supervision. Children and teens should be warned against giving out any personal information while using the Internet, email, or other direct electronic communications.
3. Only students ages 12 to 18 may use the laptops located in the Teen Room.
4. Only Children and their Parent/Caregiver may use the computers and tablets located in the Children's Area.

#### B. Prohibited Access and Use

1. Sending and/or viewing sexually explicit and/or, obscene and/or potentially offensive images, graphics and/or material.
2. Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification.
2. Harassing, libeling or slandering of others.
3. Engaging in interactive internet games.
4. Destruction of/or damage to the equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library or other users; changing the Library's set-up or software or hardware; disruption or unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications; or unauthorized copying of copyright-protected material.
5. Any illegal activity, unauthorized access including "hacking" by adults or minors.

#### C. Implementation and Practices

1. In order to assure availability of the Internet workstations, access will be permitted to one hour per day. If workstations are free after the initial hour, additional increments may be given at 30-minute intervals. The staff will monitor and enforce this by such methods as that best suit the needs of the Library.
2. If all the workstations are in use, a patron may reserve the next available workstation by notifying the desk. The reservation allows that the next available workstation will be held for 5-minutes for that patron. It is the responsibility of the patron to watch for the available computer.

3. A maximum of two (2) people may use an Internet workstation at a time.
4. Users are expected to have basic computing and Internet knowledge.
5. Users are expected to be courteous and quiet to avoid disturbing people using other Library resources.

**Caveats**

The Middlebury Public Library assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, content, completeness, or type of information found on the Internet. Although the staff of the Middlebury Public Library will enforce its Internet Policy, it does not assume a separate responsibility for monitoring or controlling access to the Internet or the content of material available or accessed through the Internet.

Internet users who release public information do so at their own risk. Anything accessed or entered on the Library's public access Internet computers are not secure and may be accessible to others. Staff is able to provide only limited Internet assistance.

**Enforcement**

Use of the Library's public access Internet workstations in violation of the policies and practices set forth herein or for an illegal purpose or in a manner that is detrimental to the functioning of the Library and its other services may be enforced by denial of use, suspension of library privileges or referral to an appropriate law enforcement agency. The Middlebury Public Library reserves the right to modify this policy at any time, without notice.

REVIEWED AND ADOPTED:  
Library Board of Trustees on  
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