

Marion County Public Library Internet Use Policy

In accordance with the Marion County Public Library mission statement, the following guidelines have been established for the use of access to online electronic information. Failure to comply with these guidelines, through willful or accidental intent, will result in suspension of privileges of electronic access as determined by the library administrator.

GENERAL

1. All patrons wanting to use the Internet must have a valid library card in good standing (ex. no fines or fees owed)
2. The Internet is considered an educational tool and is to be used by all ages. No commercial use is allowed. However, not all information on the internet is accurate, complete, or current. Patrons are responsible for the evaluation of the quality and validity of the information accessed.
3. It shall be the responsibility of all library staff of the Marion County Public Library to supervise and monitor usage of the internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

PATRONS UNDER 18

4. It is the policy of the Marion County Public Library to:
 - a. Prevent minors from access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via the Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
 - b. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
 - c. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors.
 - d. Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. No.106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h)].
5. All patrons under the age of **18 MUST HAVE** written permission from a parent or legal guardian in order to use the internet and will be kept on file. Because of content of the Internet and the use of costly computer equipment, children under the age of thirteen (13) will be required to have a parent or adult guardian present when using the internet. Parents of minors will be required to agree to pay the cost for any repairs or replacement of computer hardware or software due to damage as a result of improper usage.

INAPPROPRIATE USAGE BY ADULTS AND MINORS

6. It is inappropriate for adults to access, view, or transmit child pornographic or obscene materials in any electronic capacity or any other content deemed harmful to minors. Adult users will be suspended of all library privileges or punished by other means as deemed by the library administrator and/or Board of Directors.
7. It is illegal for minors to access, view, or transmit child pornographic or obscene materials in any electronic capacity or any other content deemed harmful to minors. Minor users will be suspended of all library privileges or punished by other means as deemed by the library administrator and/or Board of Directors.
8. To promote these requirements, the Marion County Public Library will not allow minors or adults to view, access, or use such electronic communications as required by CIPA. Prevention of inappropriate network usage by minors includes:
 - a) Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities; and
 - b) Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.
9. Filtering shall be applied to visual depictions of materials deemed obscene, or child pornography, or any other material deemed harmful to minors. The filter may be turned off by library staff only under valid circumstances where a legitimate claim for research is made or for other lawful purposes.

COMPUTER PROCEDURES

10. Internet use is available on first come, first serve basis. Patrons must use their library card to log on to internet/Computer workstations for a period of sixty (60) minutes. Additional time may be granted with good cause by the library administrator.
11. Information may be printed from the internet for a nominal fee as posted at each workstation. Library staff may supervise the printing of materials.
12. Downloading of information may only be done on a disk purchased from the Marion County Public Library for a nominal fee and may be supervised by the library staff in interest of the computer equipment.
13. **HACKING IS A FEDERAL CRIME!** Any tampering with computer hardware or software will not be tolerated and may result in suspension of library privileges or punishable by other means as deemed by the library administrator and/or Board of Trustees. No outside disks, CD ROMS, flash drives or other removable devices are permitted.
14. The Library staff and administration reserve the right to eject patrons from the internet or take other such actions as deemed appropriate if patrons abuse these policies.
15. A copy of the Internet Policy will be made available at each workstation and is the responsibility of the patron to read this policy. Use of the internet indicates acceptance of the library's guidelines.