

Internet Safety Policy

Adopted by the Hinckley Public Library District Board of Trustees

November 12, 2012

Revised 7/14/2014, 3/13/2017, 5/13/19, 4/11/22

The Hinckley Public Library District provides free internet access for users. Persons utilizing the internet agree to comply with the provisions of the current Hinckley Public Library District Safety Policy.

The library filters internet access in accordance with federal law. This technology protection measure is intended to protect against access to online content that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. Users who are age 17 and over may ask library staff to disable the filter for research or other lawful purposes.

Children of any age may use the internet at the library. While filters protect against most inappropriate matter, there is always a risk that minors could be exposed to harmful content, particularly through e-mail, chat rooms, and other electronic communications. A parent or a designated caregiver is responsible for the child's internet use and must stay with children under age 8.

The library is not responsible for any problems that may occur with personal software and hardware when using library computers, including loss of files or data. Restarting public access computers removes all user data and undoes any changes made.

The library reserves the right to suspend or revoke internet use privileges if a patron fails to comply with the following use guidelines:

- Users may not add, delete, or modify the equipment or programs in any way.
- Users must comply with all local, state, and federal laws while using the internet, including, but not limited to, those concerning copyright, fraud, privacy, and obscenity. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to, hacking, bullying, harassment, and propagating computer viruses.
- It is not acceptable to disclose, use, or disseminate any personal information regarding minors under the age of 17 without authorization from the minor's parent or legal guardian.
- Internet use time is initially limited to one hour daily, but the time may be extended at the discretion of the staff depending on demand.