



Internet Usage Policy

Sachem Public Library provides Internet access for educational, informational, and recreational use. Access is provided on all public computers and through the Library's wireless network.

While the Internet offers a wealth of information, users should be aware that the Internet is an unregulated source that contains materials which may be inaccurate, dated, incomplete, biased, inappropriate, or offensive. In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Library utilizes filtering software to block access to some Internet sites on Library computers. Sachem Public Library is guided by the following American Library Association statements on access to information: *The Library Bill of Rights*, *The Freedom to read*, and *Access to Electronic Information, Services and Networks: an interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights*.

While the Library provides wireless connectivity to the Internet, the Library does not guarantee that the use of the wireless connection is in any way secure or private. Monitoring or restriction of a child's access to the wireless connection is the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Prior to gaining access to the Internet, Library computer users, and those accessing the Internet via the Library's wireless network, must agree to accept the Library's Internet Access Agreement. While there may be a reasonable expectation of privacy when viewing the Internet in a private setting, Library computer users should not have a similar expectation of privacy, particularly when the computer screen and/or printout could be viewed by others. Library computer users are responsible for using the Internet appropriately. Library computer users must not:

- Use the Internet for unlawful purposes including, but not limited to, the production or distribution of threatening material; expressions of bigotry, racism, or hate; obscene or sexually explicit material; and material protected by trade secret is prohibited.
- Print or display of text or media which may be reasonably construed as obscene by community standards.
- Harass, libel, or slander others.

In no event will Sachem Public Library have any liability for lost profits; for any direct or indirect special, punitive, or consequential damages; or any liability to a third party, even if the Library is advised of the possibility of such damages, arising from the use of its Internet connection. Users assume all associated risks and agree to hold harmless the Library for any personal information that is compromised, or any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues, viruses, or hacking.

At the time of first registering their minor (under 18 years old) child for a library card, parents/guardians may choose to restrict their child from access to Library computers. Parents/guardians may change this selection at any time by coming in person to the Library's Circulation Desk and filling out a new Application form. Further monitoring of, or restriction to, the Internet on Library computers is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.

Usage of the Internet in the Library that is inappropriate or inconsistent with this policy may result in termination of the computer session, restriction of access to Library computers, and/or suspension of Library privileges. A patron who wishes to appeal his/her termination of the right to use Library computers shall file a written request to appeal with the Board of Trustees within 30 days of any action taken. The request shall be reviewed by the Board of Trustees at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The appealing party shall have the right to appear at such meeting.