

## **SUMMIT COUNTY LIBRARY GUELINES FOR COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE**

### **Computer and Internet Access**

The Summit County Library is committed to serving the information and learning needs of library visitors. The internet contains a wide variety of material and opinions from various points of view. Not all sources provide information that is accurate, complete or current and some information may be considered offensive or inappropriate to users. While Summit County Library is sensitive to the concerns of users about internet content, no one, including the library, can control the information available on the internet. Everyone is responsible for his or her own use of the internet in the library. The library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment or for laptop configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the wireless network.

### **Internet Filters**

In order to comply with Federal and State Law, including Colorado Revised Statutes §24-90-601, *et seq.*, the Summit County Library applies a filter to block obscene or harmful websites. Users should be aware that filtering software is inherently imprecise and flawed and may not block information that some individuals may consider offensive, inaccurate, or inappropriate. Additionally, the filter may limit access to sites which have legitimate research value. Due to technological limitations, the library cannot guarantee that the filter will protect against access to internet material that is illegal, obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. Summit County Library may not infringe on users' First Amendment rights other than as provided by law. Any user in a library facility who is 18 years of age or older may request an authorized library employee to disable the filter on public computers in the adult services area. Use of the internet and sites chosen for the library's website uphold the American Library Association (ALA) guidelines.

### **Internet and Computer Terms of Use**

1. Users sign up for the use of the public computers
2. Public computers are available on a first-come first-served basis.
3. Fees may be charged for office services such as copying and printing.
4. Users are liable for any damages relating to the use of the public computers.

### **Unacceptable Use of the Internet by Patrons of Any Age**

**Inappropriate use of** computers or wireless access may result in loss of computer privileges, wireless access privileges, and/or Library privileges. Inappropriate Use includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Use of the Library's electronic resources for illegal or criminal use.
2. Use of the Library's electronic resources to access, display, transmit, or disseminate sexually explicit images.
3. Use of the Library's electronic resources in violation of copyright laws or in violation of licenses to program or data.
4. Use of the Library's electronic resources to seek or gain unauthorized access to a computer or computing system, or to inflict damage, alter or download software or hardware components of a computer or computing system.
5. Use of Library electronic resources to obtain or access data passwords or other property belonging to other users.
6. Use of the Library's electronic resources while representing on self as another user unless explicitly authorized to do so by that user.
7. Use of the Library's electronic resources while falsifying one's age to gain access to Internet sites.
8. Use of the Library's electronic resources beyond the time limits established by library staff.
9. Use of the Library's electronic resources to send intimidating, offensive, or harassing messages.
10. Use of the Library's electronic resources to access, display, transmit, or disseminate materials, whether in text or graphic form, so as to unlawfully harass or threaten the Library's patrons or staff or any other person.
11. Use of the Library's electronic resources to violate copyright laws and other intellectual property rights.
12. Use of the Library's electronic resources to make unauthorized disclosure, use or dissemination of personal information regarding minors.

It is the policy of the Library to report illegal activities to law enforcement. Library staff members who witness conduct involving illegal use of the computers will immediately report their observations to the police.

## **Use of the Internet by Children and Teens**

Parents and designated caregivers are responsible for their minor children's use of computers, the internet and the wireless network while in the library. The Summit County Library does not act in the place or role of parent or caregiver. Parents are expected to accompany children in need of supervision on library visits to ensure the safety and well-being of children. All public computers are filtered; however, filtering software is not perfect and may not block everything that might be considered objectionable.