Internet Usage Policy

Almond 20th Century Club Library

INTERNET ACCESS:

The Internet is a global electronic network, mostly unregulated, on which anyone may place any content or communicate any content. The library does not endorse or assume responsibility for any content found or any communications made on the Internet.

The library maintains an Internet filtering mechanism for use on all computers. The filtering mechanism will only block access to the three categories of content specified by the Federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)—visual depictions of material deemed child pornography, obscene, or certain material deemed harmful to minors.[1] The filtering mechanism can be disabled on individual computers as needed by library staff. The library has a responsibility to protect the First Amendment rights of its patrons, including its minor patrons, by not inhibiting access to constitutionally protected speech, including images, language, and video that may be controversial or unappealing to community members.

ACCESS BY MINORS:

Parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for deciding which library resources are appropriate for their own children, guiding their children in the use of the Internet and informing them about materials they should not use. The library, its employees and volunteers, cannot act in place of parents or guardians in restricting access to resources, including those accessed through the internet.

While the library affirms and acknowledges the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians to monitor and determine their children's access to materials and resources, including those available through the Internet, the library has taken certain measures designed to assist in the safe and effective use of these resources by all minors.

1. To address the issue of safety and security of minors when using e-mail and other forms of direct electronic communications, as well as the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors, the library urges minors and their parents or guardians to keep in mind the following safety guidelines:

    a. Never give out identifying information such as home address, school name, or telephone number.

[1] www.fcc.gov. Children's Internet Protection Act, 2012

b. Let parents or guardians decide whether personal family information such as age, marital status, or financial information should be revealed.
c. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone via the computer without parents' or guardians' approval.
d. Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, threatening, or make one uncomfortable. Tell a parent, guardian or library staff member if you receive such a message.
e. Have parents or guardians report an incident to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children via www.cybertipline.com. or call 1-800-843-5678 if one becomes aware of the transmission of child pornography.
f. Remember that people online may not be who they say they are.
g. Remember that everything that one reads online may not be true.
h. Don't open e-mail, files or website pages sent to you by people or organizations that you don't know or trust.

2. To address the issue of unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online, minors and all other users of the library are hereby advised that any unlawful activity is strictly prohibited.

3. Create an introductory web page (splash) for wireless Internet access which requires a patron to verify that they will accept the library's terms for using that access. Unless the patron agrees to this verification, they will be blocked from using the library's wireless Internet connection.

PROHIBITED LIBRARY ACTIVITY:

Any user of electronic services in any location is strictly prohibited from any illegal activity or unlawful purpose, including but not limited to:

1. hacking;
2. harassing or invading the privacy of other users;
3. attempting to degrade the network or disrupt its performance;
4. using the network for commercial purposes;
5. sending "spam" or unsolicited advertising of any kind;
6. violation of copyright law, including downloading copyrighted works without authorization by the copyright owner.

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees on 06/25/2026