

AVON FREE LIBRARY

COMPUTER and INTERNET USE POLICY

I. **GENERAL:**

The Avon Free Library is an integral part of our community, furnishing books and other resources for the interest, information and enlightenment of everyone it serves. The library is committed to providing the public with popular materials, a "doorway to learning," and community services. The library provides access to the Internet to assist library users of all ages in receiving answers to their reference questions and easy access to resources for personal enjoyment and learning.

The library is a family setting, and Internet users are expected to exercise good judgment and good taste in their use of Internet resources. Failure to follow this guideline will result in loss of Internet privileges.

It is the policy of the Library to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via 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; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254 (h)). Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

II. **ELIGIBILITY:**

Any registered Avon Free Library patron is eligible. After carefully reading this policy, the Acceptable Use/ Internet Safety Policy, and the User's Guide, the User's Agreement must be signed. Those under the age of 10 must have an adult who has signed the agreement with them at the computer at all times. Those under 18 must also have written parental permission for computer and Internet use.

A Guest Pass may be provided to visiting patrons at the discretion of the staff.

III. **RESPONSIBILITY:**

Patrons using the computers are responsible for any damage done to the library's property (equipment, furnishings, software or library materials) caused by or resulting from inappropriate use of equipment or improper behavior.

IV. **INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM:**

The library supports the American Library Association's Bill of Rights, including those that deal with intellectual freedom, as well as the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

V. **DISCLAIMER**

The library is not responsible for any damage or loss of data resulting from the use of its computers. The library has no control over the availability of network access or inability to connect to any site due to excessive traffic on the Internet, or the availability of information links, which change frequently. The Avon Free Library is unable to control or monitor the content of the materials on the Internet, which is an unregulated medium. Library patrons use the Internet at their own discretion.

VI. **LEGAL ISSUES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996-Se. 502:**

The Avon Free Library does not condone, nor will it tolerate the use of library computer resources to break any law, including, but not limited to, the Telecommunications Decency Act: "Whoever in interstate or foreign communications by means of a telecommunications device knowingly makes, creates, or solicits, and initiates transmission of, any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image, or other communication which is obscene lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent, with the intent to annoy, abuse, threaten, or harass another person:...shall be fined under Title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned not more than two years, or both." Computer resources may only be used for legal purposes.

VII. **PARENTAL RIGHTS:**

The library affirms that it is **primarily** the responsibility of the parent, not the library, to monitor their child's use of the library materials, including Internet access. **To the extent possible, library staff will supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.**

Approved by the Board of Trustees
June 3, 2002

Amended and approved by the Board of Trustees
July 28, 2014