



Signal Hill Public Library Internet & Electronic Information Use Policy

The Signal Hill Public Library (Library) provides public access to the Internet as part of its mission to deliver services and materials to meet the information needs of its users. The Library adheres to the American Library Association's policy statement: Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: an interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights which supports the right of individuals to choose library materials for themselves, including those in electronic formats.

In order to make limited computer and internet resources available to as many people as possible, the Library designates time limits for public computer use. While Internet access is free, the Library charges for printing as established by the Library's current [Fines and Fees Schedule](#).

A. THE INTERNET

The Internet, as an electronic information resource, enables the Library to provide information beyond the confines of its own collection. It allows access to ideas, information and commentary from around the globe. It is an unregulated medium. As such, while it offers access to a vast array of tools and resources that are personally, professionally and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, it also enables access to some material that may be offensive, disturbing, illegal, inaccurate or incomplete. Users are encouraged to evaluate the validity and appropriateness of information accessed via the Internet.

B. DISCLAIMER

The Library does not endorse the viewpoints nor does it have any control over the accuracy or timeliness of the resources available to Internet users. The Library cannot control or monitor material which may be accessible from Internet sources. The Library's selection policies which serve to govern the Library's purchase of materials are not applicable to material accessed electronically. Use of the Library's Internet and electronic databases at their own risk. The Library assumes no responsibility for any damage arising from use of the Internet and is not liable for any loss that may occur from disclosure of personal and financial information. Further, the Library assumes no responsibility and shall have no liability for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages arising from use of its connection to the Internet.

C. USER RESPONSIBILITY

Each individual user must accept responsibility for determining which electronic resources they will access and determining for themselves the relative value of the content. Computer users are

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cautioned that the Library is a public area that is shared by Library users of all ages, backgrounds, and sensibilities. Users of both their own devices and those provided by the Library are asked to respect the sensibilities of others when accessing potentially offensive information or images. Since the Internet is not secure, each user accepts personal and financial responsibility for information transmitted and received.

All users of electronic information resources such as the Internet are expected to use these resources in a responsible manner, consistent with the educational and informational purposes for which they are provided. It is unacceptable to use the Library's computer systems and Internet resources for any purposes which violate the law or Library policies.

D. UNACCEPTABLE USES OF LIBRARY RESOURCES

It is unacceptable to use the Library's computer system and Internet resources for any of the following:

1. For any purposes which violate applicable federal, state, or local laws or regulations, copyright laws or licensing agreements pertaining to software, files and other resources obtained via the internet.
2. Sending, printing, receiving, or displaying content or graphics which may reasonably be construed as extremely violent, sexual, offensive or obscene by contemporary statewide standards.
3. Using computers to gain access to the Library's network or computer systems or to any other restricted network or computer system.
4. Using computer accounts, access codes, or network identification numbers without authorized permission.
6. Violating another user's privacy.
7. Destruction, damage, or disruption of equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library, including removal of privacy screens, shutting off computers, and disconnecting any computer cables.
8. Engaging in any activity which is deliberately and maliciously offensive, libelous, or slanderous.
9. Attempting to alter software configurations or to cause degradation of system performance, including the installation or downloading of any software.
10. Disrupting or interfering with network users or services, including but not limited to distribution of unsolicited advertising, harassment of others, propagation of computer



worms or viruses, randomly initiating interactive electronic communications, and overuse of interactive network utilities.

E. FILTERING

Filtering software has been installed and is utilized on all Library computers and in all forms of wireless internet access provided at the Signal Hill Public Library [in accordance with the federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) (Public Law 106-554)]. The Library employs filtering software that complies with [CIPA](#) in an attempt to bar access to objectional Internet sites while providing users with the broadest possible access to constitutionally protected speech and information. However, the Library cannot and does not guarantee absolute censorship or protection from all objectionable images or content. While filtering software may be help to limit access to objectionable Internet sites, it may also block sites that have useful information, including sites suitable for minors and adults. If a website is found to be incorrectly blocked, users may send the site address to library@cityofsignalhill.org for evaluation.

F. MINOR'S ACCESS AND USAGE

The Library does not have the right or responsibility to act in the place of the parent (in loco parentis) in order to limit or censor a minor's access to and usage of the Internet. As with other library materials, supervision of a minor's use of the internet is the responsibility of a parent or legal guardian, including the use email, chat rooms and other forms of electronic information. While the Library's system will help guide minors to age-appropriate resources, the Library strongly encourages parents and guardians to define for their family members what material or information is consistent with their personal and family beliefs.

G. PRIVACY OF INFORMATION

The Library recommends against entering private or personal information on any public Internet workstation or wireless network. The Library does not, and cannot, guarantee the privacy of any such information entered on a public workstation or shared service. The Internet provided is meant to be used for research purposes and not as means of conducting personal or corporate business.

Library users are advised to remove any personal information from workstations at the conclusion of each use. At any point in time, the Library may have software that deletes personal information from public computer workstations. However, there is no guarantee that all information will be removed. Once a computer is logged off, it is not possible for the Library to retrieve any information. Because the Library is a public place, users should be aware that information accessed on the Internet may be observed by other users.

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The Library observes local, state and federal laws governing privacy of library records, including Internet usage. Specifically, while the Library places a high value on user confidentiality, the Library is required to comply with the provisions of the California Public Records Act regarding requests for records submit pursuant to California Government Code section 7927.10.

H. WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

The Library assumes no responsibility for damage or loss of hardware, software or data resulting from use of the Library's wireless internet access. Wireless users should be aware of the security risks and potential signal loss inherent to wireless internet access.

I. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

Users violating these rules will be asked to discontinue prohibited activity. If further violation(s) occur, users may be asked to leave the library facility. Finally, police assistance and enforcement may be sought by Library staff for extreme or repeated violations or refusal to comply with the rules herein, per the Signal Hill Public Library Code of Conduct.