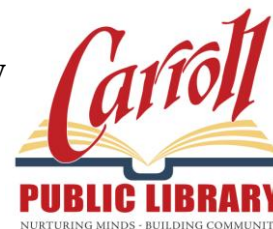


## Internet and Computer Use Policy



Purpose: The Carroll Public Library Board of Trustees establishes this policy to ensure appropriate use of Internet resources and computers within the Library. The Library provides free public access to the Internet as an informational, educational and recreational resource.

### Responsibilities of the Library

The library has no means or statutory authority to assure that only constitutionally protected material is accessed by the public. The authority to determine what is obscene rests with the Carroll County attorney (Sec. 728.6, Code of Iowa) not with the staff of the Carroll Public Library. Public libraries are exempted under Sec. 728.7, Code of Iowa. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Carroll Public Library. Carroll Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through the Internet, or any consequences thereof.

As stated in the American Library Association's Statement on Library Use of Filtering Software the use of filtering software to block access to constitutionally protected speech violates the Library Bill of Rights"; therefore, Carroll Public Library will not impose blocking or filtering software to limit access to Internet sites. Filtering software has technological limitations; it cannot always adapt to the varying ages and maturity levels of individual users, nor guarantee blocking of what some may consider "objectionable" material.

### Responsibility of Customers

Privacy in using the Internet in the library cannot be guaranteed. There exists a possibility of inadvertent viewing by others. Customers are urged to respect the sensibilities of others when accessing information that may reasonably be offensive to someone else.

The Library Board of Trustees and staff expects all use of electronic information resources such as the Internet will be responsible consistent with the purpose for which these resources are provided. This includes:

1. Using resources for educational, informational, and recreational purposes only: not for unauthorized, illegal or unethical purposes.
2. Respecting the privacy of others by not misrepresenting oneself as another user, by not attempting to modify or gain access to any computer system, or damaging or altering software components of any network or database.
3. Further respecting the privacy of others using public access stations at Carroll Public Library by not interfering with their use.
4. Making only authorized copies of copyrighted or licensed software data.
5. Not making unauthorized changes to the setup or configuration of the software or hardware.
6. Not sending, receiving or displaying text or graphics containing child pornography.

The Carroll Public Library assumes no responsibility or liability for the use of the Internet by anyone. All responsibility for a child under the age of 18 using the Internet rests with the parent, guardian or caregiver to determine what is appropriate for their child only. The Library does not act in place or in absence of the parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of the Internet. In addition, the Library accepts no responsibility for information on screens that may be inadvertently viewed by others.

Just as the Library has no control over the uses of print material by the public and because the Library does not endorse any particular point of view with regard to print or audio/video materials, so too does the Library not endorse material found on the Internet. Selection policies, which serve to govern a library's purchased materials, do not apply to material accessed electronically.

Staff may ask users to remove themselves from Library equipment if they observe any behavior, which they judge to be in conflict with this policy. Misuse of Library computers or Internet access may result in suspension of Internet access.

Adopted October 18, 2004

Reviewed and re-approved July 17, 2007

Revised and approved November 21, 2011