

Policy 3-3-2. Use of the Internet and Other Digital Reference Tools

Revised 11/16/2022

Josephine Community Library District (JCLD) provides access to the Internet, including Wi-Fi access, as a means to support the information needs and learning opportunities for the residents of the library's service area. This policy ensures appropriate and effective use of this resource. Patrons may use the Internet for research and the acquisition of information to address their educational, vocational, cultural, and recreational needs.

A. Computer Access

Patrons must sign up to use the Internet computers. A guest computer is available for out-of-town visitors without a JCLD library card. Wireless access is available during operating hours. The Internet is available to all patrons; however, this service may be restricted at any time for use not consistent with these guidelines. The restrictions can include being denied Internet use for a period of time, being asked to leave the library, or the removal by law enforcement authorities. For more information, see Policy 3-1-2, *Patron Responsibilities and Rules of Conduct*.

B. Minor Children

Parents of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the library's Internet services. Parents should inform their children of Internet sites whose content they do not want them to view or use and may wish to supervise their children's Internet sessions. The library's public Internet computers are filtered in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). See Policy 3-1-4, *Safe Children*.

C. Inappropriate Use

Users should be aware that the inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state, and federal laws and can lead to prosecution. The user will be held responsible for his or her actions using the Internet. Users are expected to abide by the policies below which include generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Unacceptable uses of the service will result in the suspension or revocation of Internet use privileges.

D. Unmoderated Internet

The Internet is a decentralized, unmoderated global network; Josephine Community Library District has no control over the content found there. The library will not censor access to material nor protect users from offensive information, and the library is not responsible for the availability and accuracy of information found on the Internet.

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), JCLD has installed filters on all library computers to block access to images that are obscene, depict child pornography, or are deemed harmful to minors. Adult patrons conducting legitimate research or other lawful purposes on the library's public access computers may request that staff bypass filters to access information that would otherwise be filtered.

E. No Virus-free Guarantee

The library cannot assure that data or files downloaded by users are virus-free. The library is not responsible for damages to equipment or data on a user's personal computer from the use of data downloaded from the library's Internet service.

F. No Privacy Guarantee

The use of the Internet and email is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.

G. Email

Users may use the Internet for the receipt and transmission of electronic mail (email) as long as they use a free email service which will establish and maintain an account for them; the library is unable to manage email accounts for any organizations or individuals.

H. Internet Sessions

Internet use is offered in 30-minute sessions on a first-come, first-served basis. Each user must sign up to use the Internet computers. Each user is allowed one session—if there is no patron waiting for the service at the end of a session, the user may have another session, but after having had the service for 30 minutes, the user must abandon use of the Internet if another patron requests use of the service.

I. Wireless Access

The library has established wireless (Wi-Fi) access to the Internet for laptop users to enhance and expand access to this important tool in the library. Users of laptop computers and other portable devices with a wireless network connection can use the library's wireless access to browse the Internet. Wi-Fi access may be limited to specified times of the day by library staff. Wireless users are expected to adhere to this Internet use policy. Violations will result in the loss of library and computer privileges.

The library does not filter or monitor the use of the Internet by users' own wireless devices. Parents need to be aware that wireless access is free and unrestricted.

J. Internet and Wi-Fi User Rules

1. Users will respect and uphold copyright laws and all other applicable laws and regulations; they will not use it for illegal purposes.
2. Users will respect the rights and privacy of others by not accessing private files.
3. Users agree not to incur any costs for the library through their use of the Internet service.
4. Users shall not create and/or distribute computer viruses, spyware, Trojans, malware, or any other illegal utility over the Internet.
5. Users shall not deliberately or willfully cause damage to computer equipment, programs, or parameters.
6. Users shall not damage or alter computer equipment, systems or software.
7. Absolutely no food or drink is allowed at the Internet computers.
8. Users shall not display, print or send any material that is obscene, libelous, threatening, or harassing.
9. JCLD is not responsible for any user's misuse of copyright or other violation of local, state, or federal law or regulation; the user agrees, by use of JCLD's equipment, to indemnify, defend, and hold JCLD, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers harmless from any claim, action, or loss arising from use of JCLD's equipment and services, including Internet access.
10. JCLD reserves the right to terminate an Internet session at any time for failure to comply with this policy.