

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY/INTERNET

Rockford Public Library provides access to a broad range of information resources including those on the Internet. Information and resources on the Internet enhance those already held in the Library, and often go beyond what is locally available. Rockford Public Library neither has control over resources offered through the Internet nor has complete knowledge of what is on the Internet. Information on the Internet may be reliable and current or may be inaccurate, out-of-date, or unavailable at times. Some content may be offensive. Library users access the Internet at their own discretion. The Internet is not governed by any entity so there are no limits or checks on the kind of information contained there.

The Library provides Internet access as part of its mission to inform, educate, entertain and provide cultural enrichment to people of all ages throughout its service area. Your use will be treated privately and confidentially within the legal limits of applicable laws. Although general assistance is provided, the Library cannot provide personal instruction at point of use. Books, magazines, videos, and library instruction classes are available. Please ask for these resources at the Reference Desk. Because Internet services are constantly changing, policies are subject to change without notice and at the Library's discretion. Rockford Public Library complies with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as required to receive federal Erate funding.

Use of a Library Internet computer is limited to 90 minutes total per user per day. [This policy will be effective Monday, June 11, 2007].

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Rules for Internet Use

- All users must use the Internet in a responsible manner, consistent with the educational, informational, and recreational purposes for which they are provided.
- Users should limit Internet use to those stations specifically approved for Internet use.
- Users may not use the Library's computers for commercial activity (lawful credit card purchases or orders of items by the user for personal use is permitted).
- Users must refrain from sending, receiving, or displaying inappropriate materials (text or graphic) which may reasonably be construed as obscene by community standards (Rockford Ordinance Sec. 1925).
- Users must not use the Library's computers for unauthorized, illegal or unethical purposes.
- Users must refrain from disrupting the use of the Internet for others.
- Users must refrain from attempting to add, delete, modify or damage the equipment or programs in any way.
- Users may not use their own software programs on the Library's network. Software downloaded from the Internet may contain a virus. Rockford Public Library is not responsible for damage or loss that may occur from use of the Library's computers.

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- **Users must respect all copyright laws and licensing agreements.**
- **Users not in compliance with these policies may have their Internet and/or library privileges revoked.**
- **The Library Internet computers designated for children are available only to children under 14 years of age only. Parents or legal guardians may accompany their children in using the Children's Internet stations when the child is using the computer. Adult Internet stations are available at every library location.**
- **A fee may be charged for material printed from RPL computers.**