

UNADILLA PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERNET USE POLICY

The Unadilla Public Library provides access to computer equipment, software, and the Internet for informational and educational purposes, both on its own computers and on patrons' laptop computers via a wireless network. All patrons and staff using the Library's computer resources or their own laptops in the library, are to do so only for legal and ethical purposes. *See Appendix A for activities that are not allowed.* The Unadilla Public Library assumes no responsibility for the quality, accuracy, or currency of the resources used.

Patrons in good standing will have access to computer resources during normal library hours. The Library Director may request a computer resource user to relinquish a workstation:

1. Temporarily to another user with a more pressing need
2. When, in the Director's judgment, the user has had fair use of the equipment and others are waiting
3. If the Director feels the computer resource has been used in an unacceptable manner as outlined in this policy

The Library staff, Board Members, or Village Officials and employees are not responsible for work lost, etc. due to a malfunction of the computer resource equipment, software, or services accessed by the Library's computer resources.

Library staff and Board Members may monitor the activities of those using the library's computer resources to ensure the appropriateness of the user's activities. However, they will not restrict access to any information except in the following instances:

1. The material contains sexually explicit images and/or text that may be offensive to others, especially children. Patrons will be asked to remove such material from the screen if the staff or Board Member feels that others cannot avoid seeing the material.
2. The material is potentially dangerous to others.

Parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for deciding what library resources are appropriate for their own children. Parents or legal guardians should guide their children in the use of the Internet and inform them about materials they should not use. Supervision or restriction of a child's access to the Internet, as with other resources, is the sole responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. The Library will not assume "in loco parentis" status.

Users must be at least 10 years of age to use the Library's Internet services. (Legal proof of age may be requested.) Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or authorized teacher.

The Director may implement a sign-up sheet to reserve time at the workstation(s) and limit the amount of time a patron may use a workstation.

TURN ON THE BACK FOR APPENDIX A.

APPENDIX A

The Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law enacted by Congress in December 2000 to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on library computers. CIPA imposes certain types of requirements on any library that receives funding support for Internet access or internal connections from the “E-rate” program, which makes certain technology more affordable for eligible libraries. As a result, the Library computers have filtered access to the Internet. The Library will override the filter ONLY for those 18 and older for sound educational uses, where the filter is blocking access to pertinent information, or for recreational use, with the amount of time to be determined by the Director. For those under 10, a parent must be present. All patrons and staff will use the Library’s computer resources only for legal and ethical purposes. Inappropriate uses of the computer resources include, but are not limited to:

1. Violation of any applicable federal, state, or local laws, ordinances, rules, or regulations
2. Damage or destruction of any equipment, software, or data belonging to the library or other computer resource users
3. Unauthorized use of equipment, software, data, computer accounts, access codes, or network ID numbers
4. Violation of software license agreements
5. Unauthorized use of copyrighted materials
6. Harassment, libel, or slander of other people or groups
7. Violation of another person’s or group’s privacy
8. Downloading or use of personal software
9. Using chat rooms or instant messaging
10. Attempting to override the Library’s filter by web proxy or any other means
11. Conducting a business

This policy is subject to change. All changes will be posted.

The undersigned acknowledges that he or she has read and understands the Library’s Computer Resources Use Policy.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|------|
| Signature | Printed Name | Date |
|-----------|--------------|------|

Library Card Number: _____

As the parent, guardian, or authorized teacher of this child under age 18, I acknowledge that I have read and I understand the Library’s Computer Resources Use Policy. I agree to be present responsible for this child’s use of the Internet in the Library.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|------|
| Signature | Printed Name | Date |
|-----------|--------------|------|

Library Card Number: _____

Revised policy adopted by the Unadilla Public Library Board of Trustees, May 19, 2008.

Revised: January 20, 2020