

POLICY: COMPUTER & INTERNET USE**Approved: November 9, 2010****Revised: March 29, 2022, June 27, 2023**

The Webster County Library (WCL) endeavors to develop collections, resources and services that meet the cultural, informational, recreational, and educational needs of the community. WCL offers public access to the internet for the purposes of information gathering, research, and recreation consistent with the library's mission and the ALA's Library Bill of Rights.

WCL is not responsible for the content available on the internet and assumes no responsibility for the use of information obtained this way.

Responsibilities of the User

Internet resources are accessible through WCL and provided to all library users. WCL does not act in place of or in the absence of the parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions that a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of computers, the internet, Wi-Fi, or other electronic resources. Parents and guardians are responsible for information accessed and/or selected by their children.

Users may not:

- 1) Use WCL equipment and/or services, including any WCL-furnished computers, networks or internet for illegal or criminal purposes, including:
 - a) violating any local, state, or federal law; or
 - b) violating U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code), which prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of "fair use."
- 2) Use WCL equipment and/or services, including any WCL-furnished computers, networks, or internet, to gain access to material that is deemed by applicable laws to be pornographic for minors or otherwise inappropriate for minors.
- 3) Use WCL equipment and/or services, including any WCL-furnished computers, networks or internet to:
 - a) gain unauthorized access to WCL's or any other organization's networks or computer systems.
 - b) distribute unsolicited advertising.
 - c) invade the privacy of others.

- d) engage in any activity that is harassing or defamatory.
 - e) engage in any activity that disrupts the normal operations of the WCL network.
 - f) engage in any activity that causes a disturbance in a WCL facility.
- 4) Make any attempt to alter or damage WCL computer hardware, software or cabling.
 - 5) Install software on WCL's computers.
 - 6) Copy software that is installed on WCL's computers.

WCL has established **Computer and Internet Use Guidelines** and users agree to and must abide by these Guidelines.

Consistent with State and Federal laws, including but not limited to Sections 182.825, 182.827, 573.010, 573.037, 573.040 and 537.060 RSMo and 15 CSR 30-200.030:

- 1) WCL may restrict minors' access to materials deemed by applicable laws to be pornographic for minors or otherwise inappropriate for minors; and
- 2) WCL may restrict other individuals' access to materials which are illegal or which are being used, shared or displayed in an unlawful manner.

Computer monitors are publicly viewable, and when it reasonably appears to WCL staff that usage is not allowed by this Policy, staff will act to restrict access. Furthermore, violation of this policy may result in loss of access to WCL computers and/or other library privileges. Unlawful activities will be dealt with in an appropriate manner.

Internet Safety

Individuals, especially minors, accessing the internet using WCL computers are advised of the following:

- 1) All users should be aware of the dangers of unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.
- 2) All users should exercise care in the use of email, social networking sites and other forms of direct electronic communications.
- 3) All users are responsible for closing all browser windows and logging out of all programs.

WCL encourages responsible and informed use of internet resources by minors. However, parents are responsible for monitoring their children's use of library computers and/or Wi-Fi connections.

WCL assumes no responsibility for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages arising from the use of its connection to internet services or from the use of the information obtained

through this connection, WCL computers or other WCL equipment. WCL cannot guarantee confidentiality or safety on the internet or computers, nor can WCL guarantee that filtering software, engines or services will restrict objectionable sites or permit access to all non-objectionable sites. Notwithstanding the installation of a technology protection measure (i.e. internet filter) or monitoring of internet and computer usage, WCL does not guarantee that minors or others will not access materials on computers, or use computers for activities, that may be considered to be inappropriate or unlawful.