Bridgton Public Library

COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE POLICY

1. **Scope**. The Bridgton Public Library (the Library), as part of its commitment to serve the community as an information center, provides access to educational, informational, and recreational materials. The Library endeavors to protect intellectual freedom and encourages lifelong learning. It is within this context that the Library offers the use of public access computers and the Internet. Patrons who release personal information, including credit card numbers, bank account information, and other identifying information do so at their own risk.

2. **Rights**. The Library reserves the right to:

       a. Establish guidelines, procedures, and time limits for access to the Internet and/or computers

       b. Terminate computer privileges for any inappropriate use of the computers

       c. Refuse Internet access to patrons with overdue books

3. **Access and Services Provided by the Library**

       a. Access to the Internet and computers

       b. CIPA compliant Internet filtering. The Library supports the right of patrons to access constitutionally protected materials and will bypass filtering software, on request, on a case-by-case basis.

       c. Printing, copying and faxing are available for a fee, as indicated by the costs posted in the Library

       d. Web-based email

       e. Patrons assume responsibility and risk for their own personal devices on Internet connection provided by the Library

       f. The posted Code of Conduct applies to computer use

4. **Prohibited Uses**

       a. Violation of state or federal law

       b. Harassment of other Library patrons or library staff

       c. Intentional damage to Library computers or other equipment

       d. Computer harassment or bullying of any kind

       e. Sexually explicit or violent graphics

       f. Bypassing security and Internet filtering without staff knowledge and consent

       g. Installation of software

       h. Intentional application of malware/viruses to Library equipment/and or network or the intentional propagation of malware/viruses to others via Library equipment.

5. **Internet Access for Children**. Neither the Library nor its staff are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by minors. Parents (including legal guardians) and only Parents may restrict their minors, and only their minors, from access to Internet resources available through the Library.

       a. Ages 5-11 : Parent must sit at the computer and supervise their child.

       b. Ages 12-17 : Initially, parents must come into the Library and sign a permission slip, available at the Youth Services Circulation Desk, to allow unsupervised access.

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