

Computer and Internet Usage Policies

1. Access to Internet Resources

The mission of the Calhoun County Public Library is to provide educational, informational, and recreational resources to patrons of all ages, cultural and economic backgrounds. The Library will protect intellectual freedom, promote literacy, encourage lifelong learning, and provide library materials and information services.

The Internet, as an information resource enables the Library to provide information beyond the confines of its own collection. In introducing the Internet as an information resource, the Calhoun County Public Library's goal is to enhance its existing collection in size and depth and, as a public access agency, give opportunity to any citizen who wishes to participate in navigating the Internet.

2. Choosing and Evaluating Sources

The Library upholds and affirms the right for each individual to have access to constitutionally protected material. The Library also affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine and monitor their children's use of Library materials and resources.

In choosing sources to link to our home page, we follow generally accepted library practices. Beyond this, we do not monitor or control information accessible through the Internet and do not accept responsibility for its content. We are not responsible for changes in content of sources to which we link nor for the content of sources accessed through secondary links.

As with printed information, not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Users should evaluate Internet sources just as they do printed publications, questioning the validity of the information provided.

3. Conditions and Terms of Use in the Library

The Library reserves the right to require all prospective users to read the policies and procedures for library computer and Internet usage. The Library reserves the right to require all prospective users to attend an orientation session as a condition for access to the Library Internet workstation. Orientation will include training in the use of software and hardware, and guidelines for the responsible care of Library equipment.

Prospective users will sign an Internet Use Contract. Youth under 14 must be accompanied by a parent and/or guardian. Youth age 15 to 18 will be required to have parental and/or guardian permission to access the Internet.

The Library will establish procedures that will make Internet workstations available by appointment or on a first-come, first-served basis.

Internet use will be managed in a manner consistent with the Library's Rules of Conduct which have been adopted and are posted in the library.

Failure to use the Internet workstations appropriately and responsibly, as defined in the policies and guidelines, may result in revocation of Internet use privileges.

Board Approved 3/6/98

Commissioner's Approval 3/31/98