

## **Computer and Internet Safety Policy**

1. Downloading to a disk or the hard drive is not permitted in order to avoid possible contamination of the Library's software. Users may not load their own software onto the Library's computers. Patrons may use USB memory keys for data storage and access. The Library assumes no responsibility for loss of data or for damaged hardware or media resulting from use with Library computer systems.
2. Internet access cannot be used for sending, receiving or displaying pornographic material, for unlawful or criminal activity including but not limited to: discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, religion, disability, age or sexual preference, sexual harassment, copyright infringement, unauthorized access or invasion of privacy. Any use of the Easton Public Library's Internet connection for illegal, inappropriate, or obscene purposes or in support of such activities is prohibited. The Library reserves the right to end an Internet session at any time.
3. For the protection of patron privacy, the Library has installed software on the public computers that will return the computers to Library specifications upon restart.
4. The Library cannot accept responsibility for the quality, accuracy or currency of information accessed via the Internet.
5. In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) (Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)], in order to remain eligible for certain federal funding, it is the policy of the Easton Public Library to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors.
6. Internet filters are used to block access to inappropriate information, specifically visual depictions of material deemed obscene, or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. As required by CIPA, filters may be disabled for adults 18 years or older who request it for bona fide research or any other lawful purpose. Users may speak with a librarian to request unblocking of a blocked site.
7. Misuse or abuse of the Library's computers will result in suspension of Internet access privileges and may also result in the loss of Library privileges.
8. Library staff will educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy.

**Adopted by the Easton Public Library Board of Trustees on August 9, 2021**