Greenwich Free Library Internet Use Guidelines

The use of the computers is on a first-come, first-served basis for the next available computer. You must key in your library bar code to use the computers. If you do not have a card, you can sign up for one. A limited number of guest passes will be available for those who don't have their card with them. Your account must be in good standing to use the computers (in other words, with fines of less than $5, the same policy that is in effect for borrowing materials). Patrons are responsible for reviewing their print jobs prior to printing them. Staff or volunteers will release your print job after you have paid for it at the desk.

You may sign up for a 60 minute session. If no one is waiting, the computer will extend your time in (3) ten minute increments, for a total of 1.5 hours per day. If you are working on a research project, taking or test, or something else that will require you to be on the computer for longer than the allotted time, please ask a staff member to manually extend your time.

Public Users Security

Users should be aware that the Internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information regarding users' activities. However, the library will not release information on the use of specific Internet resources by members of the public except as required by law as necessary for the proper operation of the library.

Access by Minors

Parents or legal guardians assume responsibility for deciding what library resources are appropriate for their own children. Parents or legal guardians should guide their children in use of the Internet and inform them about materials they should not use. Library staff does not monitor patron's internet use. The library has recommended web resource links for homework. Minors are also required to review the tip sheet provided when they get a library card with internet privileges.

Choosing and Evaluating Sources

The Internet is a series of communication linkages leading to a highly diverse array of information. The Internet offers access to many valuable local, national and international sources of information. The content of the Internet is not managed or governed by any entity; therefore, users may encounter materials that may be inaccurate, incomplete, dated, or offensive to some individuals. Library users are encouraged to exercise critical judgment when accessing Internet sites.

Filtering

The library does not monitor or control information accessible through the Internet and is not responsible for content. The library cannot guarantee that information found using the Internet is accurate, authoritative, or factual. No filtering software is in use on library computers, and the library does not assume responsibility for protecting Internet users from material they might find obscene, offensive or objectionable.

Users may not:

- Engage in any activity that is harassing, deliberately offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.

- Invade the privacy of others.

- Damage, alter, or degrade computer equipment, peripherals, software or configurations.
  Install software applications.

- View sexually explicit graphic materials, as it is inappropriate for a public and open environment.

Compliance

Those failing to comply with the internet rules will be given a copy of the Internet Use Guidelines and asked to comply immediately. Those failing to comply will be asked to leave the library facility, which may lead to revocations of library and/or Internet privileges for a period of 1-6 months. If violators do not leave, the police will be called and the library will file trespassing charges.

Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Greenwich Free Library, 10/12/10.Revised 9/21/11.