

# GERMANTOWN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

## Acceptable Internet Use Policy

Use of the Internet is a resource that we provide. However, the Library has no control over this resource or complete knowledge of all that is available online. Some information may be current and reputable, some may be obsolete, illegal and even offensive. It is the patron's responsibility to determine the validity and appropriateness of the information. By accessing the Internet through the Library, patrons agree that the Library will not be responsible for any direct, indirect, consequential, special, or punitive damages or losses which may arise in connection with such use.

Use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use or failure to follow this policy or the associated procedures may result in revocation of this privilege and/or legal prosecution.

Children under 18 **must** have parental permission to use the Internet. The Internet Use Permission Form is to be signed by the parent or legal guardian. This form is to be signed in front of a staff member. The signature on this form is legally binding and indicates the party has read and understands the terms and conditions of the Germantown Community Library's Internet Use Policy and understands its significance. An Internet sticker will be put on the library card and the child's record will be noted that the child has Internet access. The Germantown Community Library assumes no responsibility for the use of the internet by children. The Library does not monitor, and has no control over, the information accessed through the internet and cannot be responsible for its content. It is not possible for library staff to control specific information young children or young adults may locate on the internet. Just as libraries do not espouse the viewpoints of written material in their collection, they do not do so for electronic information. Selection policies, which serve to govern the library's purchase of written materials, do not apply to resources accessed electronically. Therefore parents are expected to monitor and supervise their children's use of the internet.

Library staff will assist patrons with Internet use as time permits.

To use the public Internet computers at the Germantown Community Library you must agree to the following guidelines:

- Use of Internet resources are for educational, informational and recreational purposes only. The Internet is not to be used for illegal, unauthorized or unethical purposes. All rules and regulations set forth by the Library are to be followed.
- No one may misrepresent oneself as another user by seeking unauthorized access to any computer system, files, passwords, data belonging to others, damaging or altering software components or any network or database.
- No one may send, receive, or display graphic materials depicting full nudity and/or sexual acts which are portrayed obviously and exclusively for sensational or pornographic purposes.
- No one may display threatening, harassing or abusive language and images.
- No one may install their own software on the Library's computers.
- Making only authorized copies of copyrighted or licensed software or data.
- No one may change the setup or configuration of the Library's software or hardware.

Printing is allowed and patrons will be charged per page.

Violators of this agreement will have their Internet privileges revoked for six months on the first offence and for 12 months on subsequent offences.

**Illegal acts involving Library computing resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.**

A library card and PIN (personal identification number or password) are needed to log onto the computers. The computers have a limit of 60 minutes with extra minutes available at the librarian's discretion if no one else is waiting.

Persons wishing Internet access must agree to this policy. By choosing agree on this form indicates that the party has read the terms and conditions of the Germantown Community Library's Internet Use Policy and understands its significance.

Adopted by the Duerwaechter Memorial Library Board  
October 21, 1998

Reviewed and Revised Germantown Community Library Board  
February 27, 2002; March 28, 2012