

2.2 Internet Use and Safety

The Juneau Public Libraries support intellectual freedom and are committed to providing free public access to all sources of information, including those delivered over the Internet. The libraries provide networked internet access in reference areas of the library and wireless internet access throughout all library branches during library open hours. In order to assure equal access to limited internet resources, to prevent illegal activity, and to assure a positive user experience for all internet users at the library, the library has adopted the following internet use and safety policies:

- All users of networked and wireless internet access at the Juneau Public Libraries are required to read and affirmatively accept the library's *Internet Terms of Use Agreement* before beginning an internet session.
- Violations of the *Internet Terms of Use Agreement* may result in loss of computer privileges. Repeated violations may result in the loss of library privileges.
- The library locates networked internet workstations in highly visible public areas and library staff actively oversees their use.
- Computer workstations in children's areas of the library and catalog workstations do not have internet access or are configured to allow access only to specific internet sites.
- Networked public computers in the libraries use timing software that logs off automatically at a pre-set time limit for a session. The software then scrubs the computer of all downloaded and personal data and resets the machine before a new session can be started.
- The library shapes wireless network traffic and blocks sites that use bandwidth intensive services such as peer-to-peer clients or torrents.
- It is not acceptable for a minor to receive any material that is deemed harmful to minors under the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) through a web site, email, chat room, or other direct electronic communication.
- Internet users of all ages are prohibited from attempts to hack, scan, flood, crack, or spam from conducted from library computers or over the library's wireless network.
- Internet users of all ages are prohibited from the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.
- Viewing, downloading, or transmitting child pornography is a criminal act under AS 11.61.123 & 127. If staff suspects use of child pornography on library computers, they are charged with reporting this both to the Library Director and to law enforcement.
- The library employs software on the library's computers to block pornographic sites. These blocked sites are in violation of the library's *Internet Terms of Use Agreement*.
- Library users over 18 may choose an unfiltered session in accordance with *United States v. American Library Association*, 539 U.S. 194 (2003); however, after the software is disabled, session activity must still be in accordance with the library's *Internet Terms of Use Agreement*.
- The Juneau Public Libraries cannot guarantee that filtering software will block all potentially offensive or objectionable sites. No Internet filter is 100% effective.

The library believes that internet safety education and parental involvement in children's internet use are the most effective methods to assure safe internet experiences for children. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to monitor and/or restrict the Internet use of their minor children. The libraries offer assistance to parents in identifying positive internet resources and in finding materials to assist in internet education.

The Juneau Public Libraries recommend the following resources for internet safety education:

Alaska Internet Circle of Safety: Maintained by the Alaska Library Association

<http://www.akla.org/safety/parents/index.html>

Common Sense Media: Dedicated to improving the lives of kids and families by providing the trustworthy information, education, and independent voice they need to thrive in a world of media and technology.

<http://www.common sense media.org/>