Computer & Internet Safety & Use Policy

The Port Orford Public Library District (POLD) provides public access to the Internet in keeping with its role of providing access to informational and popular interest resources. This policy applies to adults and minors.

POLD staff will work in partnership with parents and guardians to help supervise minors in the safe use of the Internet in compliance with Federal and State laws. Because we cannot control all aspects of this vast resource, we urge parents to continually participate in their child's learning process by helping them make good choices in selecting appropriate materials and websites.

- Library patrons use the Internet at their own risk. It may contain controversial material that some may find offensive.
- The library does not monitor and has no control over the information on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content.
- Users should be aware that the Internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information regarding user's activities. The library is not responsible for any loss or damage incurred by a user of the library's computer or telecommunications equipment.
- POLD will not release information on the use of Internet computers or specific websites accessed by members of the public, except as required by law or when necessary for the proper operation of the library.
- Parents or legal guardians of minor children must assume responsibility for deciding what library resources are appropriate for their children including access to the Internet. The library does not place age restrictions on access to information.

Conditions of use
- Computer use is on a first come first served basis
- Usage is provided in hour-blocks. Patrons may request more time if no one else is waiting.
- Headphones must be used if audio programming is accessed.
- All copies made on the network printer must be paid for at the time of printing.

- Materials copied from the Internet may be subject to copyright laws.
- The use of POLD computing systems and facilities for any type of illegal activity may result in revocation of Internet use privileges, general library privileges and/or constitute grounds for civil or criminal prosecution.
- Although a virus checker is used on computers, this program may not completely protect the patron from loading a virus onto a personal storage device. The library is not responsible for damage to a patron's storage device or computer, or for any loss of data, any damage or any liability that may occur from use of a public access computer.
- POLD prohibits the following:
  - Sending, receiving or displaying child pornography, obscene text or graphics or text or graphics harmful to minors.
  - Engaging in any activity that facilitates sending, receiving or displaying materials harmful to a minor.
  - Activities that disrupt the library or its network.
  - Loading or downloading software from the Internet to the computer hard drive, using personal software programs on the library's computers, or saving personal documents or images on the computer hard drive.
  - Making any attempt to modify, gain access to files, passwords or data belonging to others, seeking unauthorized access to the library's or any other computer system or damaging or altering software components of any network or database.

- As specified the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), Pub. L. No. 106-554) the library filters all Internet computers.

  - Upon request, staff may disable filters for adults. In the case of minors (those under 17 years of age), staff may disable filters for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
  - To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote all patrons' safety and security when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

- Specifically, as required by CIPA, prohibited network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.

Wireless Policy

- The Port Orford Public Library provides free wireless Internet access. The library does not provide technical support for wireless users.
- Patrons need to be aware that the wireless network is not secure. Like many public wireless hot spots, information is not encrypted and is subject to electronic eavesdropping. Wireless users are responsible for providing security for their own equipment and electronic communications.
- By using the wireless network, you are agreeing to comply with the library's policies concerning use of the Internet.
- The library exercises no control over and will not be held responsible for user-supplied equipment or Internet content that users choose to access or create using personal equipment.
- While the library strives to provide a quality wireless system, it cannot guarantee the signal quality, bandwidth availability, or general Internet site availability at any time.

Adopted