

Internet Safety Policy

Madison Heights Public Library

Adopted by City Council: June 24, 2013. Updated: DRAFT 2

Purpose

In order to comply with CIPA [[CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT](#) (Pub. L. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h))] the City of Madison Heights Public Library has adopted this Internet Safety Policy.

A Technology Protection Measure (filtering software) is installed on all Internet access points in the library, including public computers, staff devices, and the wireless network. This filtering software helps to protect against access to visual depictions deemed "obscene," "child pornography," or "harmful to minors."

The term "obscene" as defined in 18 USC Section 1460.

The term "child pornography" as defined in 18 USC Section 2256.

The term "harmful to minors" as defined in 47 USC Section 254 [G].

The Madison Heights Public Library provides free filtered wireless Internet access for patrons using their own laptops or wireless devices during normal library operating hours.

Use of the Library's Internet service indicates the user will abide by all relevant Library policies and applicable law.

While the Library strives to provide reliable service, connection quality and availability are not guaranteed due to technology limitations and high demand.

Responsibility and Safety

Staff presence and use of a filtering system should not be viewed as a substitute for parental supervision of a minor on the Internet. Parents or legal guardians, and not the library staff, are responsible for monitoring their children's use of the internet and for information selected and/or accessed by their children. Children should be warned against giving out any personal information while using these resources, social media sites, or other direct electronic communications. Appropriate online behavior is required by all users.

Filtering software is not perfect. Filters may block access to constitutionally protected material on the Internet or fail to block access to material that is obscene or harmful. Under the law, the librarian is allowed to unblock erroneously blocked individual websites for minors. The Librarian may only completely disable the filter for adult patrons using the computer assigned by the library for this purpose. These patrons must be eighteen (18) years old or older and must make this request. Adult and minor Internet use will be monitored according to Library policy.

With regard to safety, the City of Madison Heights Public Library Internet Safety Policy prohibits the following:

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- Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.
- Sending or displaying obscene or disruptive messages, files, or images.
- Any type of Cyber-bullying.
- Minors use of chat rooms or instant messaging without parental approval.
- Gaining unauthorized access to the library's network or computer systems or to any other network or computer system (hacking).
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification by or regarding minors.
- Using library computers to conduct any unlawful activity.

Internet Use Rules

1. Internet may not be used for any purpose that violates federal, state, or local laws. Users must respect all copyright and licensing agreements pertaining to electronic files and resources obtained via the Internet.
2. The customer must configure his/her own equipment. Very limited technical support is available through library personnel. The library cannot guarantee that all hardware will work with printers or WiFi and the library is not responsible for any changes made to their device settings. Staff cannot troubleshoot your equipment. Please consult your user's manual, or contact your hardware or software provider for any additional assistance.
3. Communication over WiFi is not secure. MHPL highly recommends that all laptops or wireless devices have up-to-date anti-virus software, spyware protection, and a personal firewall installed while utilizing the Library's wireless network.
4. Wireless users should be certain that their laptop or other wireless devices are secured at all times and should never be left unattended in the library, even for a brief period of time. Theft of such devices is not the responsibility of the library.
5. Limited power outlets are available in the library. These outlets may be used wherever the cord does not present a tripping hazard or block access for patrons or staff. It is recommended that you charge your battery before coming to the library.
6. Users of devices are expected to be considerate of patrons nearby and are required to use headphones when playing movies, music and games, or when using any software program that generates sound.
7. Neither the City of Madison Heights, the Library, its director, nor any city employee shall be liable for any direct or indirect damages which occur from using the wireless network.

Disclaimer of Liability

The library shall not have any responsibility or liability for any direct, indirect, or consequential damage claims arising from information found on the Internet or relating to the loss, damage or interception of any information, data, work product, or other materials viewed, searched or stored on your personal

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device. The library is not responsible for any damage to personal equipment or software that may occur as a result of using the Library's internet connection. Any violation of this policy may result in the loss of Internet privileges at the library. Unacceptable use that is illegal may result in criminal prosecution as well.