ROXBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

INTERNET USE POLICY

To fulfill its mission of providing equal access to ideas and information through a diversity of library materials, programs, services, and experiences, the Roxbury Public Library provides free and open access to Internet resources. However, some information on the Internet may be inaccurate, incomplete, dated, or offensive to some individuals. A good information consumer must evaluate the validity and appropriateness of information found.

Responsibilities of the Library

The Library does not select the material on the Internet and has no means or statutory authority to assure that only constitutionally protected material is available on the Internet. Library staff will apply the selection to criteria outlined in the Library's Collection Development Policy to provide access via the library website (www.minormemoriallibrary.org) to a broad range of valuable sources of information on the Internet.

Internet Filtering

The Roxbury Public Library has implemented an Internet Filtering Policy on all Library terminals that provide public access to the Internet.
Internet filters are software programs that seek to block access to potentially offensive images and text. This software diminishes the likelihood that Internet searchers will inadvertently retrieve text or images that they may find offensive; but this software may also block access to sites that users would consider both useful and inoffensive. Filtering software has technological limitations and cannot always adapt to the varying ages and maturity levels of individual users nor guarantee blocking all material that some may consider objectionable.

Responsibilities of Users

Library patrons use the Internet at their own risk and it is the responsibility of the user to evaluate the quality of the information accessed. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Roxbury Public Library.
Access, use, or dissemination of information via the Internet in the Library is the responsibility of the user and must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, and with all Library policies and procedures.
In the case of minors, it is a joint responsibility of the user and the parent or guardian.

Security

The Internet is not a secure, private environment. Library patrons handling financial transactions or other activities that require confidentiality do so at their own risk. In general, electronic communication is not absolutely secure and is subject to outside intervention.

Access by Minors

The Roxbury Public Library currently restricts access by minors to inappropriate matter with the use of filtering software and complies with the federal Children's Internet Protection Act by addressing the five key requirements:

- Prohibits access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web
- Protects the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications
- Prohibits unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
- Prohibits unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- Incorporates measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors

The public library does not serve in loco parentis (in place of a parent). The responsibility for what minors read or view on the Internet rests with parents or guardians. Internet filtering cannot guarantee the blocking of material that some may deem inappropriate or offensive. The following are recommended guidelines for parents and guardians to ensure that children have positive online experiences, whether at home or in the library.

- Use the Internet as a family.
- Join your children in Internet exploration.
- Explore a wide range of available information and tell your children what sites you consider inappropriate for them.
- Encourage your children to use sites on the Library's homepage and counsel them to avoid sites you consider unsuitable.
- Provide guidelines for your children on the amount of time they spend online.
- Instruct children to never give out personal information (name, address, phone number, password, credit card number, etc.) online.
- Teach children to be good online consumers
- As with print information, consider the source, date, and accuracy of online information.

The Library will make information available to help parents and guardians in their efforts to exercise their rights and responsibilities regarding their own children's use of electronic resources.

Wireless Internet

The Roxbury Public Library offers free unfiltered, unsecured wireless Internet for public use inside the library and on surrounding grounds. The Library's wireless Internet access service does not provide data encryption between access points and the wireless device. Information sent to and from a library patron's device may be captured by anyone else with a connected device and the appropriate software. Likewise, any shared files or folders on a library patron's device that are not password protected may be read, copied and/or deleted by anyone else using the Library's wireless Internet access service.
It is the library patron's responsibility to protect his/her wireless device and stored information.

Disclaimer

The Roxbury Public Library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment, device configurations, security or data files resulting from connection to the Library's wireless Internet service or public use computers, not liability for any damages to hardware, software or data, however caused.

Rules for Use

- A user's time on the public computers is limited to 30 minutes if others are waiting,

- Printing charges are $0.15 per page for black and white and $0.50 for color.
- A maximum of two people may use an Internet workstation at any one time.
- It is prohibited to send, receive, or display pornographic material.
- It is prohibited to use the Internet for any unlawful or criminal activity.

Misuse or abuse of the Library's computers will result in suspension of Internet access privileges. Illegal activities involving Library computing resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities. The Roxbury Public Library reserves the right to end an Internet session at any time.

Approved by the Trustees of the Roxbury Public Library

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Cynthia Newby, Chair

6/6/18
Dated