Computer/Internet Use Policy

Adopted by the Provincetown Public Library Board of Library Trustees on December 19, 2018

The Provincetown Public Library provides public access to computers and the internet as part of the Library's information services. The internet provides access to valuable information resources which may not be available elsewhere. The unique, unregulated nature of the internet requires that users exercise good judgment regarding information accessible on various internet sites, especially in a public space like our Town Library. The Library tries to protect user privacy but complete privacy on shared computers is not possible. Although our Library computers automatically restart between each user session in order to clear information from the previous user's session there can be no guarantee that user information shared on a public computer is secure. Parents and/or guardians, not the Library staff, are responsible to monitor their children's use of library resources.

To help ensure as safe and secure a Library environment and public Library computer and internet use as possible, the Library has instituted the following rules:

1. Patrons are prohibited from accessing materials which are prohibited by state or Federal Law.

2. Patrons may not use the library's internet service for any illegal activity. It is forbidden to use library computers for hacking and unauthorized copying of copyright-protected material in any format.

3. Because this is a public space with shared equipment, patrons shall not access materials which constitute potential sources of sexual harassment to other patrons or library staff.

4. Patrons violating the above rules may have their internet access terminated and/or may be required to leave the library.

5. Library staff is able to provide basic internet instruction. Additional one-on-one instruction is available during regularly scheduled "Tech Help" hours.

The Library also offers wireless internet access for user's with Wifi enabled computers/devices. The Library's wireless network is unsecured and not password protected. It is available 24/7/365. Data transmitted on unsecured networks can be monitored or recorded and computers and other devices connected to the internet may be vulnerable to security attacks. Patrons using the Library's computers and wireless network accept the stated risks and the Library accepts no responsibility for damage or loss resulting from any use of its networks or access provided to the internet.