ANDERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY
ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY POLICY

The library reserves the right to monitor all use of the computers. The Anderson City, Anderson, Stony Creek, and Union Townships Public Library system offers access to information resources on the Internet in response to the changing information needs of the community. Internet access is one of many components of the library's resources designed to meet the educational, informational, and recreational needs of the community.

The Internet and its available resources contain a wide variety of material and opinions from many points of view. Some sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is inaccurate, defamatory, illegal, or potentially offensive to some people. Users are responsible for determining that any information they access is acceptable, reliable, and suitable to their needs.

In offering Internet access, library staff cannot control links and sites that often change rapidly and unpredictably. Anderson Public Library has implemented filtering software on its computers to protect against visual depictions of obscenity, child pornography, and materials harmful to minors. While the library uses this filtering software in an attempt to prevent direct access to materials that would not be generally acceptable in a public library, it is technically impossible to prevent access to all objectionable material. Parents of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the Internet at the library.

The use of the Internet, either using library equipment or through connections provided by Anderson Public Library, is a privilege. Unacceptable use, as determined by the library, will result in disciplinary action. Unacceptable use includes, but is not limited to:

1. Accessing, transmitting, uploading, downloading, or distributing material or language that is pornographic, obscene, abusive, sexually explicit, harmful to minors, or child pornography; or used for any purpose that violates applicable federal, state, or local laws.

2. Interfering with or disrupting other computer users, services, or equipment.

3. Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized entry to other computing, information, or communications devices or resources.

4. Malicious, threatening, harassing, or obscene behavior. Obscene behavior includes public display of obscene materials on computer screen or in hard copy.

5. Unauthorized tampering with computer hardware or software.

6. Minors shall not disclose personal identification information on the Internet.

In order to be able to fill the demand for access to the Internet stations, the library has established guidelines for their use:

1. Users must sign in at Internet stations and conform to established time limits.
2. The library does not offer email accounts to the public.

Authorized library staff members may disable the filtering software during use by an adult to enable access to sources for bona fide research or other lawful purpose that conforms to Anderson Public Library's criteria for acceptable use.

Anderson Public Library assumes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from use of the Internet.

Devices or services funded by the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) are intended for library customers who do not otherwise have access to equipment or services sufficient to the customer's educational needs. Customers will be required to confirm need when checking out devices funded by ECF.

Violation of this policy will result in a possible loss of library privileges and/or expulsion from the library.