



EAST BRIDGEWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Virginia K. Johnson, *Director of Library Services*

Internet Use Policy

The East Bridgewater Library provides computer services, including free access to the Internet and Wi-Fi, along with instruction in its use. This is in accordance with the library's mission: *To serve the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs of our community by providing access to professional staff and the highest levels of materials, programs, and library services in a welcoming environment.*

The Library provides internet access on public workstations that are in highly visible areas to those with valid SAILS Library cards. Guests are welcome to use our computers, but must obtain a guest pass. Computers are available on a first come, first served basis. Children 7 years old and younger, using the computers, must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or designated caregiver, as stated in our Unattended Child Policy. Parents/caregivers are responsible for the information selected and accessed by their children.

The Library has no responsibility for content found on the internet, including information that may be inaccurate, out-of-date, offensive, or illegal.

Prohibited Use

It is not acceptable to use Internet access via wired or wireless connections for any purposes that violate federal or state laws. Examples of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to:

- accessing material that is obscene, or harmful to minors (i.e. Child Pornography)
- Transmission or display of threatening, harassing, defamatory or obscene materials (including Cyberbullying)
- Unauthorized access, including "hacking" or sending harassing messages to other computer users
- Damaging or attempting to damage computer equipment or software
- Violating copyright laws and software licensing agreement

Violations of this policy will result in loss of computer privileges and may result in the loss of library privileges. Illegal acts involving library computer resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities.

Patron Rights

Users should not be restricted or denied access for expressing or receiving constitutionally protected speech.

The library must provide access to information on all subjects that serve the needs or interests of each user.

Parents and legal guardians who are concerned about their children's use of electronic resources should provide guidance to their own children. Parents, and only parents, have the right and the responsibility to restrict the access of their children, and only their children, to library resources. Librarians and governing bodies have a public and professional obligation to provide equal access to all library resources for all library users.

Internet Safety

The Internet is a global network which provides access to a wide range of educational, recreational and reference resources, many of which are not available in print. The Internet does not fall under the control or governance of any single agency, government or organization. The Library cannot control access points, which often change rapidly and unpredictably.

The East Bridgewater Public Library, in the spirit of the Library Bill of Rights, does not provide any software applications that filter, block, or restrict access to predetermined words or internet addresses (URLs).

The Library makes every effort to ensure SAILS Library card holders' privacy, security, and confidentiality, but cannot guarantee that the internet sites visited will do the same.

Approved, Board of Library Trustees, June 20, 2005

Revised and voted by the Board of Trustees, November 27, 2017