

Carroll County Public Library Internet Acceptable Use Agreement

The Carroll County Public Library is committed to serving the information, recreation, and lifelong learning needs of all of its citizens. Providing access to the Internet enables the Library to greatly expand its information services. In addition, the library organizes, catalogs and indexes a variety of information that it provides through connections to the Internet, web sites and commercial databases. Not all sources on the Internet provide information that is accurate, complete, current, legal or philosophically acceptable to all people.

The unauthorized or illegal use of the Carroll County Public Library's computing systems and facilities may result in revocation of Internet use privileges, general library privileges and/or constitute grounds for civil or criminal prosecution.

The library is required by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, § 23-506.1, to prohibit Internet access for children age 16 and younger to obscenity, child pornography, and materials that are harmful to minors. In order to implement the law, the library uses a Web Content Filter on all public access computers.

The Web Content Filter disables access to certain web sites. Upon request by a library customer age 17 and older, library staff may unblock a site. Library staff may request proof of age. The library reserves the right to enforce the Acceptable Use Statement if the requested material appears to violate the law. Web Content Filters are not 100% accurate and may allow access to inappropriate sites. Parents and guardians of children under the age of 18 are responsible for their children's use of the Internet. The library assumes no liability in the event the filter is not 100% effective. The library provides access to the Internet and to Microsoft Office and digital imaging software.

The Carroll County Public Library prohibits the following:

- Accessing any programs or files outside of the installed Internet browsers and Microsoft Office and digital imaging software;
- Sending, receiving or displaying obscene or pornographic text or graphics;
- Engaging in any activity that facilitates sending, receiving or displaying inappropriate materials to a minor;
- Activities that disrupt the library or its network, including but not limited to: attempting to access, modify or delete files, passwords or data belonging to others, seeking unauthorized access to the library's or any other computer system, port scanning, running a denial of service attack, downloading or installing software harmful to the library's computers, or damaging or modifying library equipment or software.

The transfer of financial and other personal data is at your own risk. For your own protection, verify that you are submitting personal information through an encrypted (<https://>) connection. The library is not responsible for the misuse of personal information entered on websites.

Privacy Statement - The Carroll County Public Library is committed to protecting the privacy of its customers. Information, documents or programs accessed during your use of our equipment and/or Internet Service is confidential and will not be released without a court order. However, the Library may confirm to law enforcement your use of our computers and the times your use took place.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF ACCESS TO THE INTERNET OR REMOVAL FROM LIBRARY PROPERTY AT THE LIBRARIAN'S DISCRETION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIBRARY'S BEHAVIOR POLICY.

Legal Documents Cited

CIPA – <http://library.carr.org/adobe/cipa.pdf>

Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, § 23-506.1 – http://mlis.state.md.us/cgi-win/web_statutes.exe?ged&23-506.1

Approved February 23, 2005
Revised January 27, 2010
Revised May 27, 2015