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BERNARDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
COMPUTER, INTERNET AND PRINTING ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the Bernards Township Library has adopted the following policy to fulfill its mission to inform, enrich and connect our community by providing open public access to all types of information. Unlike other library resources, the information found on the Internet is not subject to the selection policies of the Library. However, the Internet is an unregulated medium. It also provides access to information that is inaccurate, illegal or that some may find offensive or disturbing. The Library will identify on its web site specific Internet sites that have potential interest for Library users, but the Library cannot control a user's access to other Internet resources. Patrons should therefore exercise critical judgment and consider the validity and reliability of sources when accessing Internet sites.

The policy applies equally to the Library's wired and wireless network, to Library devices and to any patron owned equipment used on the Library's premises. Any patron not abiding by these standards may be required to terminate a computer session and/or leave the Library premises. If illegal and/or unlawful activity is seen or suspected, the Bernards Township Police may be called. This policy is posted in the building.

Parents and/or guardians, not the Library or its staff, are responsible for the information selected and/or accessed by their children. Supervision of minors' Internet session by parents and/or guardians is encouraged and advised.

Display or transmission of sexually explicit material that is violent, obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors is strictly prohibited in the Library.

Internet Code of Conduct
1. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Transmitting of offensive or harassing messages; offering for sale or use any substance the possession or use of which is prohibited by law; viewing, transmitting or downloading illegal pornographic materials.
2. Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property. Engaging in defamation (harming another's reputation by lies); uploading a worm, virus, "trojan horse," "time bomb" or other harmful form of programming or vandalism; participating in "hacking" activities or any form of unauthorized access to other computers, networks, or information systems.
3. Uses that jeopardize the security of access of the computer network or other networks on the Internet. Disclosing or sharing the user's password with others; impersonating another user; using one's own software programs on the library's computers; altering the Library's computer settings; damaging or modifying computer equipment or software.
4. Uses that compromise the safety and security of minors when using e-mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications: Minors under age 17: Giving others private information about one's self or others, including credit card numbers and social security numbers; arranging a face-to-face meeting with someone one has "met" on the computer network or Internet without a parent's permission.
5. Uses that Violate Confidentiality of Information: The New Jersey Confidentiality of Library Records Law (NJSA 18A:73-43.2) prohibits unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information

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regarding Library users, including minors. Personally identifiable information about users may not be disclosed or used in any way, except to law enforcement authorities as provided in the law. Users should be aware, however, that due to the technical difficulties involved in providing absolute security, transactions and files may become public.

6. The Library reserves the right to invoke a time limit for sessions if another patron is waiting.
7. Time and expertise permitting, the Library staff is available to assist a patron on computer, software, or Internet use.

Failure to Comply with This Policy

Library staff members are authorized to immediately terminate a computer session (whether on a patron's device or the Library's) that violates this policy or the Patron Behavior Policy. Suspension or loss of library privileges may result from violations of these policies. Failure to comply with this policy and its procedures will result in the forfeiture of the user's right to access these computers.

Users' Security and Limit of Liability

Patrons should be mindful that the Internet is not a secure medium. Third parties may be able to gain information about users' activity and may also attempt to obtain personal information.

The Library's public computers and wireless network are set up in an open/unsecured configuration. The Library assumes no responsibility for any direct, indirect, or consequential data loss or damages related to the use of the Library's computers and/or Internet connection. The Library is not responsible for loss of data or damage to a patron's computer or storage media, or for the security of information transmitted and received while using the Library's computers, devices or networks.

Disclaimers

While the Library endeavors to provide access to information of the highest quality, the Library specifically disclaims any warrant as to the information's accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, usefulness or fitness for a particular purpose.

The Library will have no liability for direct, indirect or consequential damages related to the use of information accessed through the Library's Internet service.

Printing Policies

The cost of all copies made at public photocopiers is 15 cents per page for black and white copies and 25 cents per page for color copies.

The cost of all copies made by printers connected to public PCs and microform readers is 15 cents per page.

Payment is made at the adult area Circulation Desk and the Children's area Circulation Desk.

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