**Internet Safety Policy Guidelines**

1. General Use
2. The Internet is provided for education and information.
3. Patrons must present library card or photo I.D. at checkout counter to use a computer.
4. There is no time limit unless someone is waiting then there is a limit of 1 hour. The person who has been on a computer for the longest time will be given 10 minutes to finish after they have been notified that someone is waiting.
5. Printing for a small fee is available. Printing cost is determined by paper size and whether the copy is in black and white or color. Anything printed must be paid for at the checkout counter. Cash or checks are the only acceptable forms of payment.
6. Use by minors:
7. Parents or legal guardians of children who are 11-17 years of age may sign a permission form stating that their child may use the Internet when the parent/guardian is not present. Otherwise, they must stay with their child.
8. Children who are 10 years of age and younger must have a parent or guardian with them at the computer or parents/guardians may sign a release form allowing another adult (18 years or older) to sit on the computer next to the child while he/she is using the computer.
9. Parents/guardians must come into library to sign these permission forms or releases.
10. Parents/guardians, not library staff, are responsible for all information accessed on the Internet by their children.
11. Illegal Usage
12. **Texas Penal Code, sections 43.21, 43.22, 43.24, 43.26, 43.261, and 43.262** are the statutes that make the display of obscene or pornographic materials a criminal offense.
13. Engaging in activity that is deliberately and maliciously offensive, libelous, slanderous or harassing to others.
14. Intentional transmission of propagation of computer viruses.
15. Violation of copyright or communication laws. U.S. Copyright Law (title 17.U.S. Code) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principals of “fair use”. Any responsibility for any consequences of copyright infringement lies with the user. The library disclaims any liability or responsibility for such use.
16. Hacking(breaking into or out of any secure system)
17. Sanctions
18. Violations of the rules above will result in the user having library computer privileges suspended for 30 days. A second occurrence will result in the loss of computer privileges for 1 year.
19. Illegal acts involving the library computers, in addition to the sanctions listed above; may also be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.
20. Users are financially liable for any damage caused either directly or indirectly to any library computer or software.
21. The library reserves the right to terminate a patron’s Internet/computer session at any time the library staff deems the use to be in conflict with the library’s Internet Policy and Guidelines.