

City of Madison Heights Public Library

Internet Safety Policy

In order to comply with CIPA [[CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT](#)] (Pub. L. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)) the City of Madison Heights Public Library has adopted this Internet Safety Policy.

The library has installed a Technology Protection Measure (a filtering hardware appliance) for all Internet traffic in the library. This includes all staff, wireless, and public computers. This filtering hardware helps to protect against access to visual depictions deemed "obscene," "child pornography," or "harmful to minors."

The term "obscene" as defined in 18 USC Section 1460.

The term "child pornography" as defined in 18 USC Section 2256.

The term "harmful to minors" as defined in 47 USC Section 254 [G].

Staff presence and use of a filtering system should not be viewed as a substitute for parental supervision of a minor on the Internet. Staff ability to monitor activities of minors online will be affected by circumstances at the Children's and Circulation Desks. With this in mind, minors age 17 and under must use one of the filtered public computers in the Children's room to access the Internet, the World Wide Web, and email. Children should be warned against giving out any personal information while using these resources, social media sites, or other direct electronic communications. Appropriate online behavior is required by all users. The library will block a child's card from Internet access at the request of a parent.

Filtering software is not perfect. In some instances it may block access to constitutionally protected material on the Internet or fail to block access to material that is obscene or harmful. Under the law, the librarian is allowed to unblock erroneously blocked individual websites for minors. The Librarian may only completely disable the filter for adult patrons using computers in the adult room. These patrons must be eighteen (18) years old or older and must make this request. Adult and minor Internet use will be monitored according to Library policy.

With regard to safety, the City of Madison Heights Public Library Internet Safety Policy prohibits the following:

- Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.
- Sending or displaying obscene or disruptive messages, files, or images.
- Any type of Cyber-bullying.
- Using chat rooms or instant messaging.
- Gaining unauthorized access to the library's network or computer systems or to any other network or computer system (hacking).
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification by or regarding minors.
- Using library computers to conduct any unlawful activity.

Any violation of this policy may result in the loss of Internet privileges at the library. Unacceptable use that is illegal may result in criminal prosecution as well.

This policy was adopted June 24, 2013 by the City Council of Madison Heights