Carnegie Library of McKeesport

INTERNET USE POLICY

❖ The INTERNET, as with all materials, is provided to all patrons of the Carnegie Library of McKeesport.

❖ The INTERNET is provided through the Electronic Information Network.

❖ The Einetwork receives federal assistance under the telecommunications act of 1996 for network connections. As a participating library it is required to have and adopt a policy that complies with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Therefore: all computers in the Carnegie Library of McKeesport utilize filtering software that is reasonably determined to be CIPA compliant: i.e. "protect against access through the library computers of certain material that is obscene, child pornography or harmful to minors."

❖ Under CIPA, the staff will disable a filter for adults (age 17 or older) when requested; also the staff will override the filter for minors (under 17 yrs. of age) if the filter erroneously blocks access to a site. However, displaying material considered offensive or obscene is PROHIBITED. The Library Staff reserves the right to request that the offensive material be removed from the screen and terminate the session if the patron does not comply.

❖ The Library computers must not be used for fraudulent or unlawful purposes, including any activities prohibited under any applicable federal, Pennsylvania, or local laws, including activities in violation of 18 Pa.Cons.Stat.sec.5903.

❖ The Library does not act "in loco parentis" and recommends and encourages parental guidance and monitoring of children's use of the INTERNET.

❖ The Library will attempt to limit exposure to children and young adults to materials considered "harmful to minors" (as defined by the PA statute) by enforcing the Library's "Procedures for Computer Use" to the best of its ability.

❖ The Library is not responsible for the accuracy or currency of the information provided on the INTERNET.

❖ The Library will assist patrons with searching skills and recommend appropriate sites on the INTERNET whenever requested.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF MCKEESPORT 12/97
AMENDED MAY 2004, AMENDED NOVEMBER 2005

Carnegie Library of McKeesport

PROCEDURES FOR COMPUTER USE

❖ **Two hour limit per day** (*Sessions may be limited to ½ hr. when people are waiting*)

❖ **Patrons must have a library card to login. Guest Passes are available for visitors for temporary use.**

❖ **Two or more computers can be used for "Catalog Use Only" or Patron reference work at any time determined by staff.**

❖ **Two people limit at a computer**

❖ **For word processing discs are for sale at main desk for $1.00/each if you want to save your work.**

❖ **Computer print-outs cost .15/page black & white and .50/page for color.**

❖ **Illegal activity will result in suspension of library privileges**

❖ **No disruptive behavior**

❖ **Anything considered "offensive or obscene" is not permitted and must be removed from the screen when asked by a staff member.**

❖ **Any session can be terminated if a patron does not comply with any staff request**

GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

The best way to assure that your child is having a positive on-line is to stay in touch with what your child is doing. It is important that you as a parent assume responsibility for your child's computer use, at home, at school, and at the public library.

Be aware of the wide range of information (good & bad) that is available on the Internet. **Talk with your child about topics you consider off-limits.**

The same parenting skills that apply to your child's safety in the real world should also apply in the computer world - Stress to your child that he or she should not give out identifying information such as home address, school name or telephone number.