

## Computer Use and Internet Safety Policy

### **Objective of the Library's Information Service:**

The function and purpose of WaKeeney Public Library is to meet the informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs of all Library patrons. It is within the context of this mission that the WaKeeney Public Library offers access to computers and the Internet.

### **Foundation of the Library's Information Access Policy:**

The foundation of the Library's information Access Policy is to meet the expressed needs and preferences of each user by providing the greatest possible information access within the means of the Library and within the limitations of policy and law.

### **Internet Safety and Library Policy:**

Although the WaKeeney Public Library is concerned for the safety and security of users who access online information, the Library has no control over the content of the Internet and cannot be held responsible for what the user sees when connected to the Internet. **The restriction of a minor's access to the Internet beyond that required by this policy is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.** The safety and security of users accessing the Internet require those persons to be cautious, thoughtful, protective of personal information, and respectful of library policy and state and federal laws. **No user shall misuse a library computer to:**

- Access or display information that is obscene as defined by Kansas law;
- Participate in e-mail, a chatroom, or instant messages that use information that is obscene as defined by Kansas law;
- Disclose, use and/or disseminate personal information that could threaten or create a vulnerability for a minor, for any other person, or for the library;
- Attempt to gain unauthorized access to any data, computer, or network;
- Send threatening or harassing materials;
- Transmit computer viruses;
- Use personal software programs on Library computers;
- Download files to a library computer hard drive, network drive, or disk;
- Violate software license agreements;
- Print and/or copy copyright-protected materials in any format [Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.)]
- Adjust bookmarks, history, home pages, and/or icons;
- Alter, damage, or destroy data or programs;
- The policy must be signed by the patron or a parent or guardian if the user is under 18 years of age;
- Computer users are limited to 60-minute sessions.
- Users may print copies to the network printer for a fee of .10 per black and white copy and .50 for color copies.

**\*\*A user who violates this policy will be prohibited from using the library's computers until the user agrees to comply. A second violation will cause the library to stop a user's computer access for 14 days. More than 2 violations will result in the user's access to the library being rescinded. The library has the right and responsibility to stop the internet session when the user has violated this policy.**

The WaKeeney Public Library complies with state and federal laws. We have a particular awareness of Kansas laws relating to obscenity (K.S.A. 21-4301; 21-4301a, and 21-4301c) federal laws on copyright (U.S.

Code, Title 17), the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act (NCIPA). The library and library users must comply with these laws. A copy of the state laws referenced here may be obtained at the Circulation Desk. In the U.S. Code, Title 17, are the laws that protect the rights of authors to their publications and other intellectual property. CIPA and NCIPA are laws adopted by Congress to protect children and others as they use the Internet from a computer located in a public library or public school. The laws require an age-related limitation of information access for, in the Kansas law, “. . . a child under the age of 18 years” and in CIPA and NCIPA, “. . . an individual who has not attained the age of 17.” This limitation is applied to information that is obscene as defined in K.S.A. 21-4301; 21-4301a, and 21-4301c. In compliance with state law, the library will apply this limitation to users under the age of 18. To provide definition required by CIPA and NCIPA, the phrase “matter . . . inappropriate for minors . . .” used in the federal law is regarded as synonymous with the definition of obscenity in K.S.A. 21-4301; 21-4301a, and 21-4301c.

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