

SENECA FALLS LIBRARY POLICY MANUAL

Internet Safety Policy

Internet Access at the Seneca Falls Library is controlled by filtering to comply with the federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). This is designed to block access to web sites and information which is:

- Obscene, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
- Child Pornography, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
- Harmful to minors, which means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
 - Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
 - Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.
 - Sexual Act; Sexual Contact. The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

All computer access from library systems -- for staff, patrons and for wireless connections -- will be filtered.

Regardless of the filtering efforts by the library, there may be items on the Internet which individuals find objectionable, or parents find objectionable for their children. Library staff are not able to monitor all Internet use and it is important that adults use caution when accessing Internet resources, and that parents take care to see that their children are using the Internet responsibly.

To provide safe and secure use by minors and to prevent unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors, email, chat rooms and instant messaging functions will not be available to minors, except in cases where such activity is associated with a library-sponsored, adult-supervised program or event. The Library's policy to comply with CIPA shall not relieve parents and legal guardians of their responsibility to monitor and guide their own children's use of all library resources, including the Internet.

Disabling the Technology Protection Measure:

A person 17 years or over, may, upon request, have the technology protection measure disabled at the discretion of the Library Director or designated representative. Only library staff may disable the technology protection measure, and procedures for the disabling, or otherwise modifying any technology protection measure shall be the responsibility of the Library Director or designated representative. Any person wishing to have the technology protection measure disabled must submit valid identification to library staff. The technology protection measure shall be disabled only for the duration of the patron's use of the workstation. In all disputes concerning disabling of the technology protection measure, the Library staff's decision will prevail and be final.

Public Hearing Date: June 20, 2016

Approved by the Board of Trustees: June 20, 2016

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Reviewed by the Board of Trustees: March 15, 2021

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