

**Subject:** INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

**Date:** April 12, 2007

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**Replaces Policy Dated:** N/A

**PURPOSE:** The Pinal County Library District offers access to a variety of electronic resources that bring a wealth of information to Pinal County residents. These resources include free access to the Internet. The library is not and does not intend to be a full-service Internet provider. Services which may not be available include newsgroups, chat, telnet and personal e-mail accounts. Customers and staff who use the library's Internet connection are subject to the following policies and procedures.

#### **STATEMENT OF POLICY:**

Despite the unregulated nature of the Internet, Pinal County Library District acknowledges the need for children to have an age-appropriate Internet experience. As called for by [ARS Title 34, Chapter 5](#), filtering software is intended to provide an option for parents and children when searching the World Wide Web. Filters limit materials accessed by the user, although they do not guarantee that objectionable material will not be seen. As with other library materials, restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. It is recommended that parents supervise their child's Internet sessions. All individuals who wish to use the Internet at the Library must agree to the conditions of use prior to making use of the computers. The Library will post this disclaimer in a prominent location in the Library.

Things to know about the Internet:

- No one controls its contents. Anyone can write anything they like, so you may find information that is offensive to you.
- Since people can write whatever they like, information may be wrong, incomplete or not current. Question what you find. If the information is important to you, check it in another source. A librarian can help you do this.
- Any information that you enter into the Internet can be read by other people. Think before you write. Entering credit card numbers, account numbers, your name, address or other information may not be safe.
- The library uses a virus-checker on the computer workstations. However, if you bring in a personal storage device, it may not be completely protected from getting a computer virus. An infected storage device, inserted into any computer, could cause damage to that computer.
- Pinal County Library District does not provide e-mail accounts and does not support access to newsgroups and Internet relay chat.
- Pinal County Library District is not responsible for information found on the Internet or what you do with it. The library is also not responsible for loss of privacy, damages or loss of information caused by use of Internet services.

#### **The following activities are prohibited:**

- The Internet computer equipment and software must be used as installed. You may not add, delete or change anything on library computers.
- You may not use the Internet for activity that violates Arizona law by:

---Engaging in activities that are harmful to minors as defined in ARS §§[13-3501](#), [3506](#), and [3506-01](#).

---Publicly displaying explicit sexual materials (ARS §[13-3507](#)).

---Committing telecommunications fraud (ARS §[13-3707](#)).

## **INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (Cont)**

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- You may not use the Internet for activity prohibited by federal law. Some material on the Internet may be protected by federal copyright laws (see generally [Title 17, United States Code](#)). Unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials is illegal, except as permitted by the principles of "fair use." Generally, fair use of copyright materials is limited to copies made for personal use, private study, scholarship, or research. If the use of copyrighted material does not fall within fair use, permission from the copyright holder to use the material must be obtained before any such use. If in doubt about whether or not your use may infringe on material protected by a copyright, ask the copyright owner for permission to use the protected material. Violation of copyright laws can result in severe civil and criminal penalties. Customers of the library who have repeatedly infringed copyrighted material may have their computer use privileges terminated (see [Violation of Internet Use Guidelines](#)). Users of the Pinal County Library District's computer terminals are solely responsible for use of materials that may constitute copyright infringement.
- It is illegal to use this equipment to harm other users or computer systems.

### **Violation of Internet Use Guidelines:**

Customers whose behavior is inappropriate for a public library will be asked to modify their behavior. If they fail to do so, they will be asked to leave the library premises. Consistent with this policy, library customers who violate any of the Internet Use Guidelines may have their library use privileges suspended and be asked to leave the library. Individuals who are found to have repeatedly violated any of the Internet Use Guidelines may have their library use privileges terminated. This decision may be appealed to the Library Director. The Director's decision is final.

- The police will be contacted if a staff member reasonably suspects that behavior which constitutes a criminal offense has been committed on library premises.