

This policy is established to ensure appropriate use of Internet resources.

1. Access:

Our computers are primarily intended for research and reference purposes. Therefore, the library reserves the right to restrict access to personal Internet messaging, chat rooms, games, etc. Limited technical support from our staff may be available. No user should attempt, even temporarily, to adjust, repair or otherwise alter the library's settings, network configuration, or software licenses. Any problems should be brought to the attention of library staff, with the understanding that some problems may be beyond the library staff's ability to address.

Guidelines, with time limits, copy fees, etc., are available at the circulation desk.

Access requires a valid MHLS library card, although persons outside the MHLS system may obtain a visitor's pass at the circulation desk.

The library's computers with Internet access are located in public areas shared by patrons of varying ages, background and sensibilities. Individuals are asked to be considerate about accessing potentially controversial images.

2. Access by Minors:

Responsibility for, and any restriction of, a child's use of the Internet rest solely with the child's parent (s) or legal guardian. The Elting Library does not censor access to information some may find inappropriate. It is advised that parents/legal guardians guide their children in the use of the Internet and inform them about materials they should not use. Children under the age of sixteen must use the Internet with their parent/legal guardian/other approved adult, or have written permission to use it on their own.

- Parents-and only parents (or legal guardians)-may restrict their children, and only their children, from access to Internet resources.
- Parents or legal guardians, NOT the library, are responsible for the Internet content selected and/or accessed by their children.
- It is recommended that parents instruct their children not to give out their last names, address, e-mail or telephone numbers on the Internet.

3. Internet Content:

Not all information available via the Internet is accurate, current and complete. Users are encouraged to evaluate carefully the validity of information accessed via the Internet. Users are cautioned that ideas, points of view and images found on the Internet may be

graphic and/or controversial, inflammatory or offensive. The library does not have control over information found on the Internet. You must evaluate information yourself

#### 4. Prohibited Activities:

Internet services may be used only for lawful purposes. Use of this service in violation of any local, state or federal regulation is prohibited. The library's Internet resources may not be used to conduct a business, or to perform any illegal activity, including the deliberate propagation of computer viruses. Any verified complaints as to illegal activity may result in a shut down of a computer station, the suspension of computer privileges, and referral to appropriate authorities.

Please be aware that display or transmission of obscenity, child pornography, or materials harmful to minors is illegal and is therefore prohibited. Such displays or transmissions may result in appropriate legal action including suspension of library privileges or police intervention.

#### 5. Damage:

All users must be responsible for their behavior and for any damages that occur due to misuse. Any vandalism, destructive behavior or illegal activities may result in police action. All users accept responsibility for the good working order of the computers and furniture. Parents/guardians will be held responsible for any damage done by children.

#### 6. Security/Confidentiality:

Users are cautioned that security in an electronic environment such as the Internet cannot be guaranteed. All transactions, files, and communications are vulnerable to unauthorized access and use, and therefore should not be considered confidential. Internet users must respect the privacy of others by not attempting to modify or gain access to files, passwords, or data belonging to others.

#### 7. Copyright Warning:

All rules of copyright and personal property must be honored. Information in the form of text, graphics, music, video, software, and other media retrieved or utilized electronically should be considered protected.

The Elting Library reserves the right to terminate Internet /computer services to anyone who, in the opinion of the library, has used the Internet irresponsibly, unlawfully, or in violation of the policies explained. By clicking the "accept" button before use, or previous acceptance in the patron's record, the client agrees to abide by this policy.

Internet Permission Form for use at Elting Memorial Library

Child's name (please print) .....

Address .....

Telephone # or e-mail  
address.....

Date.....

Signature.....

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the above named child under sixteen years of age, and hereby grant permission for him/her to use the Internet at Elting Library.

Name (please print) .....

Address (if different from above).....

Telephone # / e-mail .....

Signature .....

Date.....

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