INTERNET ACCESS AND COMPUTER ACCESS POLICY

Internet access is available for all users of the Nanuet Public Library. Access to the Internet is compatible with the Library’s endorsement of the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, the Freedom to View, Access to Electronic Information and Networks, and with the policies, goals and objectives of this public library.

Parents and guardians of children under the age of 18 are responsible for their children’s use of the Internet. Parents should be aware that children will have full access to the World Wide Web in the Adult and Young Adult areas of the Library, and the only way to monitor their children’s search is to be present at the keyboard.

It is not acceptable to use the Nanuet Public Library Internet for purposes contrary to state or Federal Laws. It is not acceptable to use the Nanuet Public Library Internet so as to interfere with or disrupt other users, services or equipment. Users may not customize the library’s equipment. Such activities may result in loss of Internet privileges and/or criminal prosecution. Use of the Nanuet Public Library Internet connection is intended for private, non-commercial activities, and does not, and does not permit unauthorized sales and marketing or purchase of products or services It is assumed that information and resources accessible through the Nanuet Public Library Internet connection are private to the individuals and organizations who own or hold rights to them, unless it is specifically stated otherwise by these owners or holders of rights. In particular, it is important to respect the legal protection that is provided by copyright and licenses to programs and data.

Internet use will be managed in a manner consistent with the library’s Patron Policy, which has been adopted and posted in the library. Use of the Internet at the Library is a privilege and not a right. Attempts to circumvent the library’s procedures and restrictions will be considered a violation of the library’s acceptable use policy. Unacceptable use may result in loss of computer access and/or other library privileges. Users whose conduct violates federal, state or local laws may be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

In the event that any individual as a library patron of the Nanuet Public Library utilizes a computer terminal or library computer portal or other computer access facility or medium (including personal devices of patrons) to gain access to an Internet site, web site, computer database, or other computer facility (hereafter “computer device”) and as a result of such action any computer terminal or screen in the public rooms of the library displays graphic materials of an inappropriate nature such as pictures, signs, symbols, insignias or words as:
1. (i) Indications of a hate group or group dedicated to illegal discrimination; or
2. (ii) Sexually explicit materials, which exhibit private parts of the human anatomy (female breasts, male or female genitalia) in a lurid and prurient manner; or
3. (iii) Which displays pornography or child pornography or other graphic materials or language which would violate the laws of the United States or the State of New York; or
4. (iv) Displays bodily functions or bodily injury or physical harm to humans or animals in a vulgar or gross manner;

Which materials as displayed violate generally accepted community standards of the Hamlet of Nanuet, Town of Clarkstown, and Rockland County communities as ordinarily applied to individuals who are employed by or patronize the Nanuet Public Library, including members of the general public such as young adults and children who may be accompanying adults in the adult reading room, which display would be determined ordinarily under the above criteria to be objectionable, then in any such instance the staff of the Nanuet Public Library is authorized to take the following actions in a progressive manner:

1. The library patron(s) who are responsible for the displays on the specific computer terminal shall be asked to discontinue the display of such materials in such instance, the patron shall terminate the display with all deliberate speed.

2. The library patron(s) who are observed violating this policy will have their ID and card number logged and then will be logged off from the Internet system at the Nanuet Library for the rest of the day. The patron will be provided with a written notice of the violation and shall be asked to leave the library for the remainder of the library’s business day.

3. If the library patron(s) fails or refuses to discontinue the use of any computer terminal on two (2) or more separate days and as a result at least two (2) written notices to discontinue for violation of this policy has been issued (including the first offense) the individual’s privileges to use the computer device shall be suspended for a period of six (6) months. If after any six (6) month suspension, a library patron violates this policy on one or more additional occasions, the privileges of the library patron(s) shall be suspended for additional periods of one (1) year each for any subsequent violations.

4. If the privileges of any library patron(s) to use any computer device is suspended by any member of the library staff under this policy, the patron(s) who is suspended shall have the right to appeal such suspension to the Board of Trustees of the Library and the Library Board will hear and consider such appeal or designate an hearing officer to hear such appeal and to report and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the Library for determination. The rules of evidence shall not apply with regard to any such hearing and any
individual who presents an appeal shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes to present his or her arguments in support of their case and as part of the appeal process, may present written documentation in support of their appeal.

5. If any library patron(s) shall continue to use a computer device in violation of the foregoing policy and in violation of any request to discontinue and leave the premises, the Police Department of the Town of Clarkstown shall be contacted and an appropriate charge of trespass shall be filed against the library patron(s) in accordance with the Penal Law of the State of New York.

6. This policy is intended to supplement all other Nanuet Public Library policies, regulations or directions concerning the use of computer devices; if there is any conflict between any other library policy, regulation or directive and this policy, this policy is in control.

Nanuet Public Library Board of Trustees, Resolution passed May 27, 2015