

MOOSE LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERNET USE POLICY

Moose Lake Public Library is a member of the Arrowhead Library System (ALS); as such, we abide by the Internet policy set forth by ALS. The following is a copy of our Internet policy:

The Arrowhead Library System provides information and material that promote education, intellectual stimulation, and pleasure to area patrons through member libraries, Bookmobile, Mail-A-Book, and Internet resources.

The Arrowhead Library System provides information in a variety of formats, including print and non-print materials. The Arrowhead Library System's online automated system provides the opportunity to access electronic resources from information networks worldwide.

The Internet, as an information resource, enables the Arrowhead Library System to provide information beyond the collections of any of its member libraries. The Internet offers a variety of information that is professionally and culturally stimulating; however, the information available is constantly changing, making it impossible to predict what information is available. Individual users must accept responsibility for determining content of information found on the Internet.

The Arrowhead Library System affirms the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected material. Freedom of Expression is an inalienable human right and the foundation for self-government. Freedom of expression encompasses the right to freedom of speech and the corollary right to receive information. The Arrowhead Library System subscribes to the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights: "Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation." Individual users may not use the computers to display graphics that are obscene under Minnesota Statutes Section 617.241. They may not use the computers for illegal purposes. It is, also, the individual user's responsibility to demonstrate judgment, respect for others, and appropriate conduct while using Public Library resources and facilities.

The Arrowhead Library System receives federal funding in support of Internet access. Federal law requires libraries receiving such funding to install a technological device to block access to imagery defined by the Act as being harmful to minors. Federal law allows an adult to request that a CIPA-affected site be temporarily unblocked for "bona fide research or other legal purposes."

The Arrowhead Library System affirms the right and responsibility of parents to provide guidance for their own children's use of library materials and resources, including electronic resources. The American Library Association's Free Access to Libraries for Minors: an Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights: "Librarians and governing bodies should maintain that parents – and only parents – have the right and the responsibility to restrict the access of their children – and only their children – to library resources." Parents are encouraged to work closely with their children in selecting material that is consistent with personal and family values. Parents are encouraged to share with their children rules for online safety on the SafeKids web site.

Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Users need to be good information consumers, questioning the validity of the information.

Adopted by the Arrowhead Library System Governing Board, October 18th, 2001.

Adopted by the Moose Lake Public Library Board, March 20th, 2007.

Reviewed and Approved by the Moose Lake Public Library Board, October 15th, 2015.