Onondaga County Public Library **Board Policy**	Pages: 1 of 2
Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy	1st Consideration: 1/15/14 Resolution #: 14-06 Date Approved: 2/19/14 Review Date: February 2017

The Library (hereinafter "OCPL" or "Library") provides access to the Internet as an electronic conduit of ideas and information, greatly expanding its knowledge resources and services. This access is available to all users who recognize and accept the scope of this policy. The Library does not control the information accessed through the Internet and is not responsible for its content.

OCPL is aware that a public library is a public space; all users are expected to respect the space as a collective information commons and adhere to OCPL Patron Code of Conduct.

Wireless Access

Wireless Internet access is available in all library buildings for library patrons to use with their own personal notebooks, laptops and other mobile devices. Wireless users agree to abide by the library's Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy.

Children and the Internet

The Library seeks to provide equal access to information for persons of all ages, preserving minors' status as full members of the Internet community. In the case of minors (any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years), responsibility rests with their parents or legal guardian. Parents/guardians are responsible for the supervision of their child's Internet activity.

The Library has taken measures designed to assist in the safe and effective use of the Internet, including:

a. Employing technology protection measures (filters) on all computers offering Internet access;
b. Developing and maintaining websites designed for children and teens;
c. Providing online and printed information about child safety and information on educational and recreational uses of the Internet.
d. Parents and children are strongly encouraged to visit www.netsmartz.org for some helpful safety tools and tips.

To address the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, social media and other forms of direct electronic communications, the Library recommends the following safety guidelines. Minors should:

a. Always ask their parents' permission before giving out personal information such as their name, home address, school name or phone number anywhere on the Internet;
b. Always tell their parents or another adult they trust if they see something online that is frightening or that they do not understand;
c. Never respond to messages that make them feel uncomfortable;
d. Never give out a credit card number or password online without parental approval, and
e. Never arrange to meet in person someone they have met online unless they discuss it with their parents and an adult accompanies them.

Rules Governing Use

It will be considered a violation of this Policy for a Library patron to engage in the following conduct:

a. Abusive or harassing conduct.
b. Any criminal or otherwise illegal conduct, including the public display of offensive sexual materials as restricted by NYS Penal Laws, §245.10, §245.11, §263.11 and §263.16 when using a public PC. The library reserves the right to limit access to pertinent web resources to maintain compliance with this legislation.
c. Any copyright infringement. Users are required to comply with all licensing and copyright regulation that may apply to systems or software.
d. Damaging, disabling or otherwise interfering with the operation of computers, computer systems (including, but not limited to, altering the existing computer settings or filenames), software or related equipment through physical action or by electronic means.
e. Downloading, installing or using software not expressly authorized by OCPL.

Public Users' Security

Users should be aware that the Internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information regarding users' activities. However, OCPL will not release information on the use of specific Internet resources by members of the public except as required by law, pursuant to a subpoena or as necessary for the proper operation of the Library.

Linking to the OCPL Website

The Library requests that your link to the Library's Website be presented in a manner that does not give the impression that the Library is making an express or implied endorsement of any good or service provided on your Website and that the link is presented in a manner that clearly indicates that the user is leaving one site and accessing another.

Compliance

The OCPL Administration is authorized to develop rules for appropriate use of the Internet at the Onondaga County Public Library. Regardless of whether a rule is specifically listed herein or in the Administration's rules, if the user's conduct while using the system disrupts the Library or its computer network, it will be considered a violation of this Policy and appropriate action will be taken against the violator, as provided for in the OCPL Patron Relations Manual and/or as set forth in other Board Policy(ies) governing patron behavior. Federal, state and/or local law enforcement agencies may also be contacted where the violation involves criminal activity.