

# Internet Policy

## PISCATAWAY PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERNET POLICY

The Piscataway Public Library offers Internet access as part of its mission to provide Township residents with access to a wide range of information and ideas.

The Internet allows users to connect to networks of resources outside of the Library. The Internet is an unregulated medium while it offers access to a wealth of material that is personally, professionally and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages it also enables access to some material that may be inaccurate, offensive and/or illegal. The Library does not monitor and has no control over the information on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The Library upholds and affirms the right of every individual to have access to constitutionally protected material on the Internet.

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. Piscataway Public Library will not release information on the use of specific Internet resources by members of the public except as required by law or necessary for the proper operation of the Library.

To assist users in their exploration of the Internet, staff librarians will make recommendations for resources that are informative and age appropriate. This will include assistance in identifying appropriate sites for children exploring the Internet.

The Library upholds and affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine and monitor their children's use of all library materials and resources. Library users, whether children or adults, are the final selectors in using the Internet, and are responsible for their individual choices and decisions.

The Piscataway Public Library's Internet connection may not be used for purposes contrary to state or federal laws, or in ways that interfere with or disrupt other users, library employees, services or equipment. Activities which are not allowed include, but are not limited to: unauthorized access to any network or computer system; causing degradation of system performance; damaging computer equipment or software; violation of copyright laws; and display of graphic pornography which is inappropriate for an open public environment. Such display could be considered to be sexual harassment. Use of the Piscataway Public Library Internet connection is intended for private, non-commercial activities, and does not permit unauthorized sales and marketing of products or services. The Library does not offer email accounts or access to chat groups.

Internet users must comply with the Guidelines for Using the Internet Computers established by the Library. We encourage adults and children to follow the suggested Internet Safety Guidelines. Failure to use the Internet stations appropriately may result in loss of Internet privileges and criminal prosecution.

The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.

*Approved by the Library Board of Trustees 5/12/03*