Public Internet Access and Use Policy

The Hopkinton Town Library provides public computers with Internet access, wireless Internet access and laptops and tablets for in-library use. The Internet enables the Library to provide resources not available within the confines of its own collection. However, the Internet is an unregulated medium and not all sources provide accurate, complete, or current information. It also enables access to some material that may be offensive and/or illegal. Library staff will be available to provide assistance and to help identify appropriate sites for adults and children exploring the Internet, but the Library also 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 Library does not filter or censor access to any Internet sites. The Hopkinton Town Library disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to the Internet, or use of information obtained through the Internet, as well as loss of data or damages occurring from the use of the computers or software. We strive to protect First Amendment rights of our patrons and their individual rights of privacy. However, Internet users should also respect the rights and sensitivities of others, which is consistent with the Library’s Appropriate Behavior Policy.

Guidelines for Use

- Library public computers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Although there is no time limit placed on use of computers, patrons must make any computer available to others who are waiting when asked to do so by library staff.

- **Printing:** Each printed page is 10 cents per page. Double sided pages are 10 cents per side. Pick up and pay for printouts at the Welcome Desk.

- The Internet access computers are available during hours when the Library is open, subject to periodic maintenance and staff use.

- Wireless Internet access is available in the library to individuals with laptop computers or other mobile devices. The user assumes any risk involved in the use of the wireless connection. Inquire at the Welcome Desk for more information on accessing this service.

- Laptops and tablets are available for in-library use for patrons (18 and above) with a valid Hopkinton Town Library card in good standing.
• Personal software programs may not be used at the Internet access computers.

• Patrons can save documents to their own storage devices, provided the device is compatible with Library computers. The Library can provide temporary use of a USB storage device in order to allow patrons to save documents and email those documents to themselves or to a third party. Files or documents may not be saved to the hard drive of Library computers. The Library is not responsible for any loss or damage to storage devices.

• The Library does not provide email accounts. Staff can assist patrons in setting up a free email account if necessary.

• Patrons are personally responsible for any materials ordered online. The Library assumes no financial responsibility and does not guarantee the safety of any online transaction.

• Patrons agree to abide by all applicable federal, state and local laws governing copyright, licensing and content restrictions. Internet computers may only be used for legal purposes. Unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to: harassment of other users; defaming other users; destruction of or damage to equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library or other users; tampering with the computer settings; disruption or unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications; unauthorized copying of copyright-protected material; and displaying graphics which may be construed as obscene as defined by law. The Library reserves the right to terminate or restrict the user’s Internet privileges for abuse of these conditions.

• Patrons should be aware that the library is a public place. All patrons using any computer or personal digital device on library property must do so in a way that does not interfere with library operations or violate the rights of other patrons. Caution should be used in divulging personal information.

• Assistance will be available as staff time and experience permits. When requesting assistance with a personal mobile device, patrons accept that the assistance could involve certain risks to the device. The Library will not be held liable for any damage or loss to the patron’s device. The Library makes no guarantee regarding the technology assistance provided.