Butler Public Library
Computer Use Policy

Butler Public Library provides access to many electronic resources, including the Internet, which contains a wide variety of material and opinions from varied points of view. Many web sites contain valuable and timely information; however, other web sites may contain material that is inaccurate, defamatory, illegal or offensive to some people. The use of library computer systems is a privilege and access, in most cases, will require patrons who are in good standing with Butler Public Library.

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires that a library adopt Internet safety procedures that addresses five issues pertaining to minors (any person younger than 18-years of age).
- access to inappropriate matter
- safety and security when using e-mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications
- unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful online activities
- unauthorized disclosure of personal identification information
- measures designed to restrict access to harmful materials

While Butler Public Library attempts, through filtering software, to prevent direct access to materials that would not be generally acceptable in a public library, it is technically impossible to prevent access to all objectionable sources. Be aware that any user may be monitored by library staff.

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of parents, stepparents and guardians to monitor and guide their own children in the use of the library computers and the Internet.

Butler Public Library also provides public wireless access to the Internet. Patrons must provide their own WiFi capable devices to connect to the public Wifi. Users of the BPL Wifi are subject to the terms of this policy. The library cannot guarantee the privacy or safety of data and communications while using either wired or wireless services. Patrons need to be aware that wireless networks are inherently insecure and it is strongly recommended that they secure their computers with firewall software and data encryption.

BPL makes no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the Internet access it is providing. The Library is not responsible for the accuracy, nature or quality of information gathered through library-provided Internet access. Patrons agree to hold the library harmless and agree to indemnify the library from any and all liability resulting from the privilege of accessing the Internet through the library.

The Director has the authority to cancel or deny access to anyone who is identified as a security risk or violates any of the rules and regulations of this policy. The following intentional actions are considered unacceptable, and in some cases, illegal, and may result in loss of computer resource privileges, library privileges, and/or prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.

- accessing, transmitting, uploading, downloading or distributing material or language that is pornographic, abusive, defamatory, sexually explicit, obscene, child pornography, harmful to minors, or any material that is intended to annoy, harass or alarm another person
- engaging in any illegal activities using library computers or networks
- vandalizing,. damaging, modifying or disabling library computers, networks, software, electronic resources or any library property, including installing and/or modifying any software on library computers
- attempting to gain unauthorized access to any computing, information or communication devices
- unauthorized copying of copyright or other protected material
- intentional violation of another person's privacy
- using another person's library card to gain Internet access
- disrupting others' use of computer resources in any way
- any other activities deemed unsuitable

Approved 4/14/21 by Butler Public Library Board of Trustees