

## **Internet Safety Policy**

It is the policy of the library to offer customers Internet access on library computers and to advise customers as to the safe use of the Internet.

Only the Calvert Library web site is maintained by the library. The library has no control over and is not responsible for the content of any other sites. Information on the Internet is not always accurate, authoritative, or factual. Information may be erroneous, out-of-date, illegal, or considered offensive, controversial, or sexually explicit.

Library computer hardware and software are not to be used for any unlawful purpose including but not limited to fraud, gambling, hacking, or child pornography. Tampering with or altering the library's software or hardware is prohibited.

Obscenity and child pornography are illegal and therefore prohibited. The viewing of pages that display graphic pornography is inappropriate for a public and open environment and is prohibited.

Parents are responsible for the safety and security of minors when using e-mail, chat, or other direct electronic communications. Parents are responsible to prevent minors from disclosing personal information on the Internet.

In compliance with the Supreme Court decision on June 23, 2003, related to the Children's Internet Protection Act, the library is required to filter computers. Minors (under the age of 17) are prohibited from viewing or accessing obscenity and pornography on computers in the library. A technology protection measure (filter) blocks these depictions. This filter blocks sites considered to be adult or sexually explicit. The filter is installed on all computers used by the public to access the Internet.

Blocked web sites may be appealed. A customer who believes the filter blocks a non-prohibited web site is asked to provide the web site address to a librarian.

Librarians will accommodate requests from customers 18 years old and older for bona fide research on an unfiltered computer.

Calvert Library encourages customers to be responsible and considerate citizens in their use of the Internet in this public setting. Library staff will observe monitors and any inappropriate use will be stopped immediately. Failure to comply with this policy may result in loss of access. Customers will abide by the judgment of the librarian.

### **Date**

Approved, Board of Library Trustees, December 20, 2011

Revised and approved, Board of Library Trustees, August 11, 2015