

## Internet Access Policy

1. The Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library offers access to electronic resources, including the Internet, as part of its mission to provide services and materials in a variety of formats to meet the information, education and recreation needs of the community. The library considers its endorsement of the [Library Bill of Rights](#) and the [Freedom to Read](#) documents to apply as well to access to and use of such electronic information.
2. The Internet is a global electronic network which enables libraries to provide resources, materials, and information beyond their doors. The NYS Department of Education officially encourages libraries to provide access to electronic information. All libraries in the Mid-York Library System have been recognized by the NYS Department of Education as *Electronic Doorway Libraries*. The library's access to the Internet, including the World Wide Web, is provided through Mid-York. The Mid-York Library System does not provide electronic mail accounts, FTP (file transfer), Internet Relay Chat, Newsgroups, or other Internet features. Library staff is available to help users of the Internet. However, staff members do not and cannot have complete knowledge of Internet content and may not be familiar with sites that users access or wish to access.
3. The library and Mid-York Library System do not warrant information found on the Internet to be accurate, authoritative, factual, timely, or useful for patrons' purposes. The Internet is a global entity which does not fall under the control or governance of any single agency, government, or organization. The availability of networked information via library terminals does not constitute the library's or Mid-York's endorsement of the content of that information. The library cannot control the accuracy or the validity of the information, availability of links, or materials some may find offensive. If any patron believes that information obtained via library terminals is inaccurate or offensive, the patron should contact the original producer or distributor of the information.
4. **It is the library's policy that parents or legal guardians are responsible for deciding what library materials and resources are appropriate for their minor children. Supervision or restriction of a child's access to the Internet, as with other library resources, is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. Children also bear responsibility in using library resources properly. Their curiosity should be tempered by their judgment and upbringing. More information on children and the Internet can be found in [Child Safety on the Information Superhighway](#) by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children available both on-line and in the Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library.**
5. **It is the Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library's policy that parents or legal guardians are responsible for monitoring what library materials and resources, including Internet access, are appropriate for their minor children, defined by New York State as under 17.**
6. All users of electronic resources are expected to use these resources in a responsible and ethical manner consistent with the standards and rules of the library and of the community. Patrons may not use terminals for a malicious, criminal, obscene or indecent purpose whether in language or image, including but not limited to, violation of computer system security, unauthorized use of computer accounts or access codes, obstruction or disruption of other

people's work, violation of copyright or software licensing restrictions; nor are they to use terminals to install or download software; in violation of another user's privacy; or in any manner that is disruptive to other library patrons. Failure to adhere to these guidelines shall empower the librarian to deny or restrict access to individuals in violation of these policies and rules. The library reserves the right to enforce a time allowance of thirty (30) minutes per session. Printing will be limited to that which can be completed within the allotted time, and may be stopped at the end of that time.

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