

Benewah County Free Library District Internet and Online Access Policy

General Introductory Statements:

Public access to the Internet and online services have become an integral part of the Benewah County Free Library District's programs and services. The intent of this policy is to meet the provisions of Idaho Code 33-2741, as well as provide guidelines for patrons and staff regarding Internet accessible and online computer use.

Developed under the direction of the Library Board the Benewah County Free Library District, this Internet and Online Access Policy was discussed and adopted during an open meeting of the Library Board on April 11, 2012. This policy supersedes all previous Internet and Online Access Policy statements of the Benewah County Free Library District and is effective on April 11, 2012.

As a matter of policy, the Benewah County Free Library District will abide by all laws governing or regulating Internet use as such legislation relates to library policy or service.

This Policy will be reviewed by the Benewah County Free Library District Board at least every three years.

Legal requirements:

The Benewah County Free Library District's Internet Access Policy complies with Idaho Code 33-2741 PUBLIC LIBRARY -- INTERNET USE POLICY REQUIRED.

The Benewah County Free Library District has in place a policy of Internet safety for minors, including the operation of a technology protection measure, hereafter called "filtering software," on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, as defined in I.C. 33-2741. The filtering software will be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer by a minor.

The Benewah County Free Library District has in place a policy of Internet safety, which may include the operation of a technology protection measure on any publicly accessible computer with Internet access that protects against access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography as defined in I.C. 33-2741. The filtering software may be enforced to provide Internet safety during any use of a computer.

Library policy restricts access to Internet sites that contain visual depictions that are child pornography, harmful to minors or obscene, and may also limit Internet access or otherwise protect against materials other than the materials specified in Idaho statute. Filtering software will provide Internet safety for all library computers connected to the Internet during the use of a computer by a minor. However, an authorized library representative may disable a technology protection measure at the request of a patron to enable Internet access for lawful purposes.

The Library Board has approved the use of a dedicated MX100-HW Meraki MX100 Router/Security Appliance (firewall) with manageable content filtering.

Implementation Requirements:

A notice of the availability of this Policy will be posted in a conspicuous place within the library for all patrons to observe.

The Library Board has established procedures and guidelines to handle complaints about this policy, enforcement of this policy by library staff, and what a patron should do if they observe inappropriate behavior by another library patron. A notice of the availability of these procedures for public review will be posted, as well as the policies made readily available to all staff members. These procedures and guidelines will be adhered to by library staff to enforce the requirement of Idaho Code 33-2741.



County Library Board Chairperson



County Library Director

Footnote: The effective date of the last review of this policy is April 14, 2021

Adoption date: April 11, 2012.

First review date: April 8, 2015

Second review date: May 9, 2018

Third review date: April 14, 2021