INTERNET USE and PUBLIC WIRELESS ACCESS POLICY

By choosing to use library computers, Internet access or public wireless service, patrons of the John G. McCullough Free Library agree to abide by this Internet Use Policy which prohibits abusive or illegal activity while using the Library's Internet or wireless service.

I. INTERNET USE

A. Introduction

As part of its mission to provide a wide range of information resources to its users, the John G. McCullough Free Library provides computers with unrestricted access to the Internet, including through its public wireless network.

The Library subscribes to and supports the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights* and the associated interpretation *Access to Digital Information, Services, and Networks.*

B. Internet Access

The Internet, an essential medium for obtaining and transmitting valuable information of all types, is unregulated and offers access to information that is inaccurate, biased, illegal, or that may be offensive or disturbing to some users. The Library does not monitor an individual's use of the Internet; nor does the Library employ filtering software.

C. Responsibilities of Library Staff and User

Library staff will not monitor a user's Internet use, except for time limits in order to ensure equal opportunity of access for everyone. The user, or the parent/guardian of a minor, is responsible for his or her Internet activity at all times.

The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session that disrupts library services or in the event that a user violates Library policy.

The Library affirms the right and responsibility of parents/guardians, not the Library, to determine and monitor their minor children's use of the Internet. Parents who believe that their children cannot responsibly use the Library's Internet access are requested to monitor their children's Internet use.

D. Disclaimer

The Library strives to provide citizens with access to information of the highest quality; however, the Library specifically disclaims any warrant as to the accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, or usefulness of content located via the Internet.

The Library will have no liability for direct, indirect or consequential damages related to the use of information accessed through the Library's Internet service.

E. Unacceptable Uses of Library Computers
Examples of inappropriate use include, but are not limited to, the following:
   a. Violation of computer system integrity;
   b. Unauthorized tampering with computer hardware or software;
   c. Storage of data to anything other than a personal storage device;
   d. Violation of software license agreements or copyright laws;
   e. Violation of another user's privacy;
   f. Compromising the safety and security of others or the property of others.

Illegal acts involving Library computing resources may also be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.

F. Response to Violations
Failure to comply with this policy and related library procedures may result in the suspension of access to library computers or to Internet service in the library.

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II. WIRELESS ACCESS

This service is free of charge and subject to the terms of the Library's Internet Use Policy and terms and conditions of use as follows:

A. LIMITATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS

- Wireless access is provided as a public service free of charge on an as-is basis with no guarantee and no warranty. The Library's wireless network is subject to periodic maintenance and unforeseen downtime.

- There are risks involved with connecting to a public wireless connection, such as possible viruses, malware, loss of data, possible hacking/snooping by others connected, and possible hardware/software failure. It is the user's responsibility to protect his/her information from all risks associated with using the Internet, including any damage, loss, or theft that may occur as a result of using the Library's wireless access.

- All Library Wi-Fi users should have up-to-date antivirus software installed on their computers/devices.

- The laptop computer/device owner is responsible for setting up his/her own equipment to access the Library's wireless network. Library staff is not permitted to handle patron laptops, devices or peripheral equipment. Library staff is not permittd to configure patrons' laptops/devices; nor can the Library provide more than general assistance in getting connected to the wireless network.

- The Library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment; users must keep their equipment with them at all times.

- In using this free Internet access, users agree and hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless, the John G. McCullough Free Library, its

officers and employees, and any affiliate, from any damage that may result from a patron's use of the Library's wireless access. While using this wireless access, users acknowledge that they are subject to, and agree to abide by all laws, and all rules and regulations of North Bennington, Bennington, and Shaftsbury, the State of Vermont, and the federal government that is applicable to Internet use.

- At its sole discretion, the John G. McCullough Free Library may terminate this public service at anytime without prior notice.

- Printing is not available via the wireless connection at this time. If the user desires to print, the file can be saved to a flash/thumb drive or emailed and printed from a public computer for a fee of $.10 per page.

- Any attempt to circumvent library procedures or any unauthorized attempt to access or manipulate library equipment may result in suspension of use of the Library's Wi-Fi network.

Policy Adopted: July 16th 2013