

## INTERNET & TECHNOLOGY

Information found on the Internet is provided by millions of people and organizations from around the world. Not all information found on the Internet is accurate, up-to-date, legal, or acceptable to all individuals. The Library does not control information found on the Internet and, therefore, cannot be held responsible for its content. Individuals who use the Internet are responsible for evaluating the validity and appropriateness of the information they access.

The use of Library computers for the transmission, dissemination and/or duplication of information is regulated by state and federal laws. All Library users must comply with these laws. Library policy forbids the access of illegal material on its terminals. The Library does not provide e-mail accounts; however, visitors may be able to access their free web-based e-mail accounts using the Library computers.

### Internet Use by Minors

As with other Library materials, supervision of a child's use of the Internet is the responsibility of a parent, guardian, or caregiver. A parent, guardian, or caregiver must advise the Library whether or not the minor has permission to use the Internet before the minor's card will allow Internet access.

The Library's Internet service and devices are programmed to meet the requirements detailed in the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), including blocking any visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

### Responsibilities of Internet & Other Computer Users

Visitors using the Library's Internet and technology:

- Must not attempt to save files on hard drives or C: drives
- Must not shut off computers or purposely manipulate computers in order to get additional sessions
- Must not damage computer equipment or software
- Must not use any Library card but their own
- Must not engage in harassing or defamatory activity online
- Must not use computers for illegal, obscene, or pornographic activity

Violation of this or other policies may result in the loss of computer access and/or Library privileges.



## **Wireless Internet (Wi-Fi)**

The Hewitt Public Library provides free wireless access with which visitors may use to connect personal laptop computers or other Wi-Fi-enabled devices. By choosing to use this free service, visitors agree to abide by relevant Library policies and rules. Wi-Fi users are bound by Texas Penal Code, sections 43.21, 43.22, and 43.24, which make display of obscene materials a criminal offense.

## **Internet Safety**

The Library's Wi-Fi is not secure. Information sent to and from visitors' devices may be captured by anyone else with a wireless device and the appropriate software. The Library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment, or for computer or other wireless device configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the Library's Wi-Fi network. Anti-virus and security protection are the responsibility of visitors.

The Library is not responsible for any loss of data or theft or damage to personal equipment or software.

## **Technology Assistance**

Due to the diversity of mobile computing equipment used by visitors to the Library, staff is not able to provide technical assistance outside of basic navigation skills, nor is staff permitted to configure or troubleshoot a visitor's computer or device. However, classes may be offered to address these topics.

*Endorsed by the Library Advisory Board on January 29, 2024*