Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library

Public Internet Access: Computer Lab and Wi-Fi Use Policy

To fulfill its mission of providing each individual with equal and adequate access to informational resources, The Raymond A. Whitwer Tilden Public Library (herein referred to as The Tilden Public Library) provides free Public Internet Access to its patrons, community members, and guests of the library.

Internet access computers are located in the computer lab and are available for use by library members and non-members. All computer lab users are asked to sign in with their name and time on the designated sheet before accessing the computers. Frequent users will be asked to read the Public Internet and Computer Use Policy, and sign a statement of responsibility which will be kept on file. Computer users or the parents/legal guardians of children age 16 and under are responsible for the repair/replacement of hardware or software damaged from misuse or abuse while using library computer equipment. The Computer lab is available during regular library business hours, however the lab will close 15 minutes prior to the closing of the library.

Users are guaranteed 1 hour of computer usage time. The use time may be extended if there are no others waiting to use a computer. Since any data or work cannot be saved on the computers in the lab, users may bring their own discs, flash drives or other storage devices in which to save data. Downloading executable software or programs will not be allowed, however, users may bring in discs, flash drives or storage cards to work from. Headphones are available at the circulation desk, and will be returned to the desk after use.

Library staff has the right to request computer users to vacate the lab if their behavior is unacceptable. Abuse or violation of the **Internet Acceptable Use Policy** will result in a loss of internet privileges. Committing illegal violations as defined by State of Nebraska Statutes will result in permanent loss of Internet privileges at the Tilden Public Library and may also result in financial liability and/or criminal charges. Police will be notified of any Child Pornography accessed.

Free Wi-Fi access is available throughout the library and Lied Auditorium. The Wi-Fi access we offer is unfiltered. While using this free service, you agree to abide by the library's **Internet Acceptable Use Policy.** Your access to this Wi-Fi service is conditioned on legal and appropriate use. Activities conducted online through this service shall not violate any applicable law or regulation or the rights of the Tilden Public Library, or any third party.

The library's Wi-Fi network is unsecured. Information sent to and from your notebook/laptop computer, tablet, phone or other wireless device may be captured by anyone else with a wireless device and the appropriate software. Do not use it for sensitive information such as personal banking, shopping, or any website that requires a special log in.

The library is public area for use by guests of all ages, backgrounds, sensitivities and values. Users are expected to consider this when accessing potentially controversial information and images, and respect that not all content is philosophically acceptable to all individuals.

The library assumes no responsibility for the safety of personal equipment or for notebook/laptop computer or other wireless device configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the library's wireless access.

Internet Policy as it Pertains to Minors

Minors 13 through 17 years of age who wish to access the internet on the lab computers Wi-Fi service (including for laptops, tablets, phones or other wireless devices) will need to have a Parental Consent Form completed and signed by both the minor and parent or legal guardian, on file at the library. Parental Consent Forms will be available at the library or printable from the library website at www.tildenlibrary.org. Library staff reserve the right to verify the validity of Parental Consent Forms at any time.

If at any time internet efficiency is compromised by the number of users, it will be at the discretion of the library staff to limit access and/or ask minors to end their internet session.

Children under the age of 13 who wish to use the computer lab or Wi-Fi service must be accompanied by a parent, or guardian 18 years or older at all times while in use.

Parents or guardians of minors 17 years and younger will assume all responsibility for the use of the Internet by his or her child, and agrees to hold the library harmless from any and all liability that may occur from the use. All rules and regulations written into the library's **Internet Acceptable Use Policy** must be followed.

Parents are strongly urged to read and discuss with their children information on internet safety. Free brochures on this subject are located in the Library.

Non-internet access computers, equipped with learning & entertainment software, and Microsoft Office programs are available for children as an alternative to the computers in the computer lab. These are located in the children's section of the library.

All Internet / Wi-Fi users are asked to abide by the following **Internet Acceptable Use Policy** and laws:

- Users may not use library computers or Wi-Fi service for viewing, sending or receiving materials which may be determined to be harmful to minors as defined by State of Nebraska Statutes Section 28-807(6).

- Users may not use library computers or Wi-Fi service for viewing, sending or receiving materials which may be determined to be obscene as defined by State of Nebraska Statutes 28-807(10).

- Users may not violate licensing agreements and copyright laws (Title 17, United States Code).

- Library computers or Wi-Fi service may not be used for inappropriate network usage including unauthorized access (hacking) or unauthorized disclosure, use and/or dissemination of personal identification information, or for any degree of cyber-bullying.

- Computer lab users will not attempt in any way to alter, damage, abuse or sabotage computer equipment or software, alter configurations or install any software.

- Users in the computer lab are asked to be respectful of others around them, quiet, and to keep distractions at a minimum.

- Phone conversations should be conducted outside of the lab unless it is necessary for the help of computer usage.

- Altercations, antagonizing, and bullying in the computer lab will not be tolerated.

- No food or beverages of any kind will be allowed into the computer lab.

The Internet consists of information and resources on a wide range of topics and subject matter, contributed and provided by an infinite number of individuals and organizations globally. Users should be aware that not all information available through the Internet is accurate, complete, up-to-date, legal, factual or authoritative, and is not warranted by the Tilden Public Library as such. Users must be responsible for verifying the accuracy of any material they choose to use. The Tilden Public Library assumes no responsibility and shall have no liability for any direct, indirect or consequential damages arising from the use of information found on the Internet, or any communications sent through the library's Internet terminals. The library does not monitor an individual's use of the Internet; nor does the library currently employ filtering software; however measures have been taken to block harmful and inappropriate information, specifically visual depictions of material deemed obscene or pornographic.

The Tilden Public Library reserves the right to modify these policies if circumstances warrant.

Approved by the Tilden Public Library Board May 13, 2019