Sulphur Springs Public Library Policy on Internet Use

It is the Sulphur Springs Public Library's policy that parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for deciding what library resources are appropriate for their children. There may be some resources that parents may feel are inappropriate for their children. Parents should let their children know if there are materials which they do not want them to use as well as supervise their child's Internet session(s). Some library computers are designated as Children's Workstations. These workstations use filtering software to access the Internet. No filtering software can control access to all materials that an individual may deem inappropriate. Parents should instruct children in the *Rules for Online Safety* recommended by the *National Center for Missing and Exploited Children*.

While the Sulphur Springs Public Library endeavors to provide access to information of the highest quality, the library specifically disclaims any warrant as to the information's accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, usefulness or fitness for a particular purpose.

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

The Sulphur Springs Public Library, having installed and enforced the operation of filtering software in compliance with the *Children's Internet Protection Act* (CIPA), will have no liability for damages related to the operation of or failure of, the filtering software or for its circumvention by users.

Since software and information downloaded from any sources, including the Internet, may contain computer viruses, users are advised to utilize virus checking software on their home computers. Any user wishing to use portable media in Sulphur Springs Public Library computers, such as, but not limited to jump/thumb drives are required to have Library staff run a virus check at the Circulation Desk. The Sulphur Springs Public Library is not responsible for damage to users' drives or computers or for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from use of the Sulphur Springs Public Library's computers.

Internet workstations are available to Sulphur Springs Public Library cardholders in good standing. There is a limit of 3 (1 hour) sessions of public computer usage per day. Children under the age of nine must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Users may not:
1. Use any Sulphur Springs Public Library workstation for any illegal or criminal purpose, including but not limited to:
   a. use of a Sulphur Springs Public Library workstation to gain access to the Sulphur Springs Public Library's network computer systems or to any other network or

computer system or to use Sulphur Springs Public Library workstation for otherwise specified unacceptable use thereof;

b. the violation of copyright laws, software licensing agreements, including but not limited to, *U.S. Copyright Law* (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibiting unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by principles of "fair use." Responsibility for any possible copyright infringement lies solely with the user. The Sulphur Springs Public Library disclaims any liability or responsibility resulting hereof;

c. engagement in any activity which is deliberately and maliciously offensive; libelous, slanderous or of a hostile, intimidating or harassing nature towards the Sulphur Springs Public Library's customers or staff by means of viewing, displaying, or printing explicit graphical images in violation of *Texas Law: PC 43.24*, "Sale Distribution", or "Display of Harmful Material to Minor".

d. represent oneself as another person or using the Internet to transmit obscene, threatening, or harassing materials including sexually explicit site and gambling on the Internet;

e. the damage of or destruction of equipment, software, or data belonging to the library or to other users, including adding, altering, or deleting files on library workstation, hard drives, or other Sulphur Springs Public Library computer equipment.

2. Obstruct other people's work by consuming gratuitously large amounts of system resources or by deliberately crashing any library computer system.
3. Make any attempt to damage the Sulphur Springs Public Library's computer equipment or software, including but not limited to, the changing of operating system settings, installing or attempting to alter existing software settings or configurations and/or attempting to cause degradation of system performance.

Use of the Sulphur Springs Public Library and the Internet will be suspended if these rules and policies of Internet use are violated.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
http://www.missingkids.com/en_US/publications/NC168.pdf

Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)
http://www.fcc.gov/guides/childrens-internet-protection-act

U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code) http://www.copyright.gov/title17/circ92.pdf

Texas Law: PC 43.24 http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/PE/htm/PE.43.htm