

Ventura County Library uses web filtering products to protect its network from unwanted intrusion as well as to filter certain categories and websites for minors who use VCL computers to access the Internet. No filtering product is 100% effective.

The filtering categories include:

- Phishing and Fraud (attempts to acquire personal data by masquerading as a trustworthy source)
- Spyware
- Malware (viruses, Trojan horses, hacking, etc.)
- Pornography

Responsibilities of Computer and Wi-Fi users: Patrons 18 and older are given the option of accessing filtered or unfiltered access upon each log-in at a library computer. The library environment is a public facility and used by individuals of all ages. Disruptive behavior or failure to comply with VCL policy or library staff directions may result in loss of Internet privileges, expulsion from the library, or prosecution under local, state, or federal laws. The library is not responsible for loss or corruption of data, including theft of personal information or damage to personal electronic devices.

- Computer users must also follow the posted Rules of Conduct - Library Behavior and
- be respectful of others when viewing sites that others may find objectionable
- be respectful of others by keeping volume low when using headphones so as not to disrupt fellow library users
- be protective of personal information that is sent via the Internet
- be responsible for any fines or fees associated with damaged or lost computer or Wi-Fi equipment borrowed at or from the Library.

Wireless Internet Access: Ventura County Library provides wireless Internet access at selected libraries and makes Wi-Fi hotspots available for loan to patrons 18 and older.

- Wireless network instructions are provided at the Library's main desk.
- The Library's Public Wi-Fi network will be filtered for everyone, children and adults.
- Only patrons 18 and older can borrow a computer or Wi-Fi hotspot for remote use.
- Wi-Fi hotspots in the Library's collection loaned for remote use are unfiltered.
- Library staff cannot provide technical assistance.
- Wireless computer users must use their own wireless-capable devices to access the Internet at the Library or borrow a computer from the Library's collection if it is available.
- Computer users of the wireless network use the service at their own risk.

Copyright and Software License: The copyright laws of the United States (Title 17, US Code) prohibit the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, including software duplication, except as permitted by principles of fair use. The person making the copy is liable for any copyright infringement.

Illegal and Unacceptable Uses:

Unacceptable uses include but are not limited to:

- Criminal activities that violate federal, CA or local laws including fraud and child pornography
- Sending unsolicited emails (spamming), unauthorized access to networks (hacking), or attempting to gather personal information (phishing)
- Damaging equipment belonging to VCL including computer privacy screens
- Installing and or using unapproved software on library computers
- Degrading performance or disrupting network users

Ventura County Library - COMPUTER, INTERNET, and WIRELESS ACCESS POLICY - 6/2021

