



Using the Internet

## Advantages . . .

Turn to Jefferson County Public Library as your single source for up-to-date technology and resources. In addition to our print collection, our libraries offer computers with high-speed Internet access and online databases that provide credible primary sources, journal articles and reference materials.

The Internet offers a wealth of information that can be personally, professionally and culturally enriching. Jefferson County Public Library staff members evaluate sites for accuracy, teach classes and offer written materials that make the Internet easy to use. Our staff has also identified age appropriate information and links on our web site.

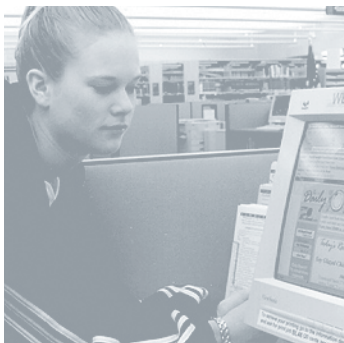
## . . . Disadvantages

Not all information on the Internet is accurate, current or complete. The Internet is a vast and unregulated information network, which includes ideas, images and commentary that go far beyond the limits of what libraries have traditionally offered.

There is no effective way for a library to protect individuals from images and information that they may find offensive or disturbing.

The Internet is not secure or private. Third parties may gain access to information you use while online – including credit card numbers, phone numbers and addresses.

## Children and the Internet

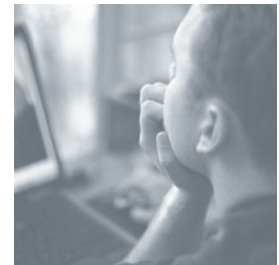


Children under the age of 17 must have a parent or guardian’s authorization to obtain a Jefferson County library card. The library card application requires parents or guardians to choose filtered or unfiltered Internet access for their child. This choice is offered in compliance with state law.

No filtering software is perfect. There is always the possibility that something could “slip through” or that an appropriate site will be blocked.

In the Library, parents or legal guardians are responsible for deciding, which library materials and Internet resources are appropriate for their children. Parents are urged to discuss Internet use with their children in relation to family values and boundaries.

Computers in the children’s area of our libraries are intended for use by children or adults accompanying children. Staff members are authorized to monitor Internet use to ensure that images are appropriate for the children’s area.



## Limits in the Library

E-mail, online chat and games are permitted at designated terminals. Time limits are posted at each computer.

Users may not reconfigure or alter stations or load new software.

Jefferson County Public Library is not liable or responsible for damages arising from the use of electronic services through our system, including the Internet.

Users are reminded of U.S. copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code) which prohibits unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of fair use.

