

## Teens' Rules for Online Safety

The following rules were written for young people aged 13-17. The Library realizes that you are not a child, but sometimes we are legally obligated to treat you as a minor, which can group you with children. Although teens are normally mature young adults, your age group is statistically very susceptible to Internet crime. We ask that you seriously read and adopt the recommendations below to make your use of the Internet as enjoyable and productive as possible.

1. I will tell my parent(s) or guardian (hereafter referred to as parents) right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.
2. I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents' work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' permission.
3. I will never agree to get together with someone I "meet" online without first checking with my parents.
4. I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.
5. I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the service provider.
6. I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.
7. I will not give out my Internet password to anyone other than my parents (even my best friends).
8. I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law.

Adapted from the SafeKids.Com web site. Identical to the FCPL Kids' Rules for Online Safety. Rules 1 – 6 are adapted from the brochure Child Safety on the Information Highway by SafeKids.Com founder Lawrence J. Magid.

**Ask Library staff if you have a problem or need help  
while using the Internet at the Library.**

