

LakesNet Communications

Acceptable Use Policy

Introduction

LakesNet was established to enrich the educational, public service and business environment of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, and nearby regions through the use of advanced Internet-based information technologies and related applications. In pursuit of this goal, Lakes Net has established a wide-area high-speed network service that provides inter-organizational connectivity for its customers and connection to other state, regional, national, and international networks.

LakesNet Policy

It is the policy of LakesNet to provide its customers access to the broadest possible number of organizations connected to the Internet. This is accomplished through connectivity to one or more state, multi-state regional, or national backbone networks. With the exception of information specifically authorized by or on behalf of LakesNet, LakesNet does not develop or publish, nor does LakesNet review, censor, or edit the materials and information which are accessible through the LakesNet service networks, or the materials and information which are accessible through the other computer networks which may be connected to the LakesNet service networks. The persons and organizations, including LakesNet customers who publish materials and information, which are accessible through the LakesNet service networks, are solely responsible for the content of such materials and information and are solely responsible to know and to comply with all laws applicable to the publication of such materials and information. LakesNet does not accept responsibility for the content of the materials and information published by others that is accessible through the LakesNet service networks and does not accept responsibility for the violation of any laws resulting from such publication.

LakesNet Guidelines

It is the responsibility of all LakesNet customers and their constituents who have access to the LakesNet service networks and to the networks of other providers, to comply with the LakesNet Acceptable Use Policy and the acceptable use policies governing those networks. The following guidelines are part of the LakesNet Acceptable Use Policy.

It is the responsibility of all customers who have access to the LakesNet service networks to:

- i. Use LakesNet services and facilities in a manner, which does not violate any applicable laws or regulations;
- ii. Respect the privacy of other users, and not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users without permission;
- iii. Respect the legal protection provided by copyright, trademark, licenses, and other laws to programs, data and documents;
- iv. Minimize unauthenticated or anonymous access accounts and the transmission or distribution of messages or articles from those accounts;
- v. Use LakesNet services and facilities in a manner, which does not interfere with or disrupt other network users, services, or equipment. Such interference or disruption includes, but is not limited to:

- Wide-scale distribution of messages to inappropriate mailing lists, news groups, or other public or private forums,
- Propagation of computer worms or viruses, and
- Use of the network to make unauthorized entry to other computational, information, or communications devices or resources. This includes unauthorized security probing activities or other attempts to evaluate the security integrity of a network or host system without permission.

Enforcement and Violations

Each LakesNet customer, partner, or other affiliate shall be responsible for distributing, publicizing, and enforcing the LakesNet Acceptable Use Policy at their sites or among their own customers, partners, or other affiliates who may be hosted on their networks or connected to their networks via connections not directly supported by LakesNet. This enforcement responsibility applies to all traffic that the connected party exchanges with or distributes through the LakesNet service networks.

Even though LakesNet does not review, sensor, or edit the materials and information which are accessible on the LakesNet service networks or other networks which may be connected to the LakesNet service networks, if LakesNet becomes aware that a LakesNet customer, partner or other affiliate is in violation of the law or this Acceptable Use Policy, LakesNet reserves the right to impose disciplinary action up to and including termination of LakesNet services and forfeiture of all fees paid to date. Evidence of illegal or prohibited activities may be disclosed to law enforcement authorities.

Modifications to this Policy

LakesNet reserves the right to modify this policy at any time. Customers will receive prompt notification of all modifications.

Approved this 2nd day of April 2002.

James Thomas, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission

Richard Grabow
City Administrator