

## **Collection Development Policy for Internet Resources**

The library maintains a collection of Internet links on its website to meet the educational, cultural, research and recreation needs of the West Hartford community. Sites are chosen to enhance and expand the library's print and non-print collection. The policy for selecting Internet resources is consistent with the existing Materials Selection Policy.

Web sites are evaluated according to their content, authority, timeliness, audience suitability, presentation, and ease of use. Emphasis is given to sites of local interest. In addition to reviews and recommendations in professional journals, librarians consider the following factors when evaluating web sites:

### **Content**

- Authoritative – Clearly identified, credible author
- Documented, accurate, verifiable information
- Timely and updated regularly
- Preference given to educational, governmental, and non-profit organizational sites
- Advertising does not overshadow content
- Biases and opinions are clearly identified
- Appropriateness of subject matter

### **Access**

- Stable site
- No fees required
- Consistently available

### **Design**

- Well organized
- Clear instructions
- Easy to use
- Graphics that enhance the content

Linked sites are reviewed periodically and removed if they no longer satisfy the criteria for inclusion. The Internet collection will not grow beyond the number of links, which can be maintained in a timely manner.

Approved by the West Hartford Library Board  
September 18, 2001