

Network Use Guidelines

Barrow County computer and network use policy is designed to guide individuals in the acceptable use of computers, IP phones, Information systems, and networks owned by the County. More importantly, it is meant as an application of best practices to ensure availability, integrity, reliability, privacy, and confidentiality of county owned computers, phones and information systems. Barrow County makes computing and network resources available to its entire staff in the support of county services to its citizens.

This policy applies to all Barrow County Information Systems Users.

All users may not...

- Use IT resources without proper authorization
- Attempt to monitor, intercept, analyze or modify network traffic or transactions not specifically addressed to your computer
- Harass, defame, intimidate or threatens anyone through the use of computing or network resources for sexual harassment issues, see Barrow County Personnel Policy
- Use computing or network resources for profit, commercial or political use
- Attempt to alter or reconfigure any Barrow County IT resources, e.g. network infrastructure, servers etc.
- Attempt to obtain privileges for which you are not authorized
- Attempt to access, modify and/or delete another user's files, configuration or software without the expressed agreement of the owner
- Attempt to learn another user's password(s) or personal information
- Attempt to alter or obscure your identity or your computer's identity, including but not limited to IP Address and email address, while communicating on any network
- Interfere with or disrupt computer or network accounts, services or equipment of others including but not limited to consumption of excessive IT resources, (e.g. local area network or Internet bandwidth) through the propagation of worms or viruses or the inappropriate sending of broadcast messages to large number of hosts
- Interfere with or circumvent MIS responsibilities and procedures
- Consume excessive IT resources, e.g. Local Area Network or Internet Bandwidth
- Abuse email privileges - see email policy
- Download and/or share copyrighted material for which you do not have the proper authorization

Policy Enforcement

Barrow County network administrators may be required to investigate violations of this policy in order to ensure compliance. MIS may restrict the use of computers and networks when faced with evidence of violation of this policy. MIS is sensitive to these issues and will remain professional and conscientious while evaluating potential violations.

MIS Group Responsibilities

Beyond controlling access and protecting against unauthorized access and computer or network threats, Barrow County MIS plays a proactive role in implementing and enforcing security or network procedures by following industry standards and common sense best use practices. Using hardware infrastructure and software tools, utilities and applications, we are committed to maintaining a network and computing environment enabling authorized staff a secure, reliable access to internal and external networking resources and applications.