

## OpenDNS Internet Filtering

→ 208.67.222.222

→ 208.67.220.220

As reported earlier, the OPLIN Board has negotiated a contract with OpenDNS to provide a statewide Internet content filtering system that will be available to all public libraries in 2012. OPLIN is charged by a legislative requirement to assist local libraries in using filters to screen out obscene and illegal materials to obtain CIPA-compliance. In the past, OPLIN has fulfilled this requirement by distributing individual filtering grants to libraries, but the funds were never enough to provide assistance to more than 50 systems. OPLIN finally identified OpenDNS Enterprise as a central filtering solution that can effectively provide content filtering for all Ohio public libraries, while still allowing each library to have complete control over how the filter is used in their library system or even if the filter is used.

Beginning in January 2012, OPLIN will implement this solution for approximately 90 libraries, and will have the capacity to handle all public libraries by July 2012 at no additional cost to the library. Those libraries with no filter or whose current filtering solution will expire before June 30, 2012, will receive first priority. No filtering grants will be available to individual libraries after June 2012 – all funds earmarked by the legislature for filtering will be used to support the statewide filter.

### Technical Information:

OpenDNS is a web-based filtered Domain Name Service (DNS). Libraries set up an initial user account and associate static IP addresses with this account, and then you can control the types of content users can view, similar to a traditional content filter. For any request to access a website that is considered inappropriate, OpenDNS returns the IP of one of their block servers, instead of the IP for the real web server. The block can be bypassed on a per-session basis by entering a “bypass code” created in the web admin interface. This code creates a cookie in the user’s browser, which the block server detects to proxy the user to the content. The user is never proxied unless a bypass code is in use, so there is no interference with IP authenticated resources.

In addition, bottlenecks are not an issue as with installed software since OpenDNS does not have to handle the actual traffic after the initial DNS request. Libraries can achieve redundancy by using the state’s DNS servers as additional forwarders (<http://oplin.org/dns-services/>).

For more information about OpenDNS, please see: <http://www.opendns.com/web-filtering/> OR <http://www.oplin.org/opendns/>

#### Web Content Filtering

##### Choose your filtering level

- Whitelist Only** Enabling this feature will **block all websites** except those listed below under your “Never block” individual domains.
- High** Protects against all adult-related sites, illegal activity, social networking sites, video sharing sites, and general time-wasters. 26 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- Moderate** Protects against all adult-related sites and illegal activity. 13 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- Low** Protects against pornography. 4 categories in this group - [View](#) - [Customize](#)
- None** Nothing blocked.
- Custom** Choose the categories you want to block.

  Apply to all OpenDNS networks

#### Manage individual domains

If there are domains you want to make sure are always blocked (or always allowed) regardless of the categories blocked above, you can add them below.

  Add to all OpenDNS networks

##### ALWAYS BLOCK:

 facebook.com

##### NEVER BLOCK:

 linkedin.com

 Delete from all OpenDNS networks



## Statewide Databases...and ODURT

Good news for the Ohio Web Library statewide database subscriptions – it looks like we will have enough Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) money to fund another year of both a language and a genealogy database. Libraries Connect Ohio (LCO) has already released a request for proposal (RFP) to vendors on December 19, and the RFP bid is available for viewing on the Wright State University website (fiscal agent for LCO): <http://www.wright.edu/administration/purchase/bid.html>.

So while there is no guarantee that we will continue with Mango Languages and Ancestry Library Edition, we will at least offer similar options for one more year starting on July 1, 2012.

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For the last eight years, OPLIN has been tracking usage of the Ohio Web Library databases by individual libraries in the **OPLIN Database Usage Reporting Tool (ODURT)** at <http://www.oplin.org/odurt/>. As of the end of 2011, these usage reports will no longer be updated.

The ODURT tool has always provided simple statistics while database vendors often provide much more usage detail, which OPLIN was not able to load into the ODURT reports. Also, usage of newer and more interactive databases, such as Learning Express Library, Job and Career Accelerator, and Mango Languages, do not fit the “searches/downloads” format of ODURT reports. For these reasons, we have transitioned our statistical reporting to the documents provided at <http://www.oplin.org/statistics/>.

Historical statistics and current statistics by zip code will continue to be available on ODURT, but current statistics by library will only be posted to the new statistics page – <http://www.oplin.org/statistics/>.



### *OPLIN Mail Practices*

Brief explanation for those users with OPLIN email accounts.

#### **OPLIN Mail Practices** (<http://www.oplin.org/mail-practices/>):

- Any account that has been inactive, or not logged into, within a three month period will be closed.
- Any account that remains inactive for six months will be permanently deleted from the mail server.
- Forwarded accounts are excluded from closure/deletion since they are perceived as being active.
- Accounts that have only been closed can be reopened if notified within timeframe before deletion.
- Employees should log in to their accounts on a more frequent basis to keep this from occurring.
- Forwards can be requested for OPLIN accounts to other accounts that are checked more often.

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The reason for these new practices is for proper maintenance and organization of mail accounts on the server. We assume that any staff email accounts that have not been accessed for such a lengthy time period are no longer in use and have been abandoned due to employee turnover.



## Juniper Router Upgrades – 2nd Phase

OPLIN has now begun the second phase of Juniper router replacements, and as reported in the July edition of *The OPLIN Circuit*, we had already replaced 71 Cisco routers during the first phase. These routing devices are used to connect the public library data circuits to the OPLIN core, so it is important that we are finally able to replace them with new models.



We are upgrading to Juniper J2320 or J6350 routers, and we have now replaced the Cisco routers for about 80 total libraries. We will continue to replace the current routers, and plan to begin a mass upgrade soon with the vast majority of new routers installed by the end of March 2012. The State Library awarded the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) LSTA funds in the amount of approximately \$244,000, which was necessary for us to complete the Juniper router upgrades for the remaining libraries.

### OPLIN Calendar

Friday, 1/13  
OLC Board Meeting

Monday, 1/16  
Martin Luther King Day,  
OPLIN CLOSED

Thursday, 1/19  
State Library Board Meeting

Friday, 1/27  
E-Rate 471 Workshop

Friday, 2/10  
OPLIN Board Meeting

Monday, 2/20  
Presidents Day,  
OPLIN CLOSED

Wednesday, 3/21  
OLC NE Chapter, Kent

Friday, 3/23  
OLC Board Meeting

Wednesday, 3/28  
OLC SW Chapter, Wilmington

Thursday, 3/29  
State Library Board Meeting



### OPLIN Happenings & Reminders

Lorrie Germann, Educational Technology Consultant at eTech Ohio, will present an upcoming E-Rate workshop to assist public libraries in completing Form 471. The workshop will be held at the State Library of Ohio with videoconferencing available to other locations throughout the state. The date is listed below:

- **E-Rate Workshop (Form 471): January 27, 9AM – 12PM**

For more information, visit <http://oh.webjunction.org/oherate>.



Mobile version upgrades of all existing Dynamic Website Kits are now complete. Regular work began again on December 5, 2011.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the **2011 OPLIN Stakeholders Meeting** at the OLC Convention & Expo in Toledo.

We hope to see you again next year!