

CivNet Privacy Policy

Updated October 2016

The policy below reflects informal aspirations not a formal, legally-binding privacy policy. In addition, our ability to follow through on some of the policy below is dependent on our ability to build out requisite technical features. We hope to develop a formal privacy and build out requisite features as soon as we are able and no later than three months after we raise our next round of funding. In the meantime if you have an input you'd like to share, please email us at help@civnet.com

What We're Collecting

CivNet will collect information about users including their name, email, location and general site activity, such as what issues they follow and what actions they take regarding issues they care about. This information will be collected when users sign up, update their profile information, and generally interact with the site.

What We Are Using it For

Bettering user experience on the site:

- **Name and location:** The name and location of users will be used to make it easier for other users to find people with similar civic and political interests. Users will have the option of using a pseudonym or username if they do not want to share their real name.
- **Email:** We will use your email to contact you about CivNet updates and updates to action plans you have joined. When a user subscribes to an organization they will have the option of sharing their email if they would like to be emailed directly by that organization. Otherwise, we will not share your email with third parties.
- **Site Activity Data:** CivNet uses data about what issues you follow, your civic and political skills, and civic actions you take to make it easier for you to find meaningful opportunities for engagement.

Data Services to Clients

CivNet's primary clients are social good organizations, such as non-profits and foundations. The data services CivNet provides are designed to help those organizations better measure their social impact and conduct outreach in the communities they work in. Data services fall into two categories:

1. **Data on people a client works with:** For example, a non-profit may want to know how many hours it's volunteers spend doing different volunteer activities over a period of time and have that data compiled into a report they could put in a funding proposal. In this case CivNet may share data on what civic actions you take on projects administered by the organization and organizations that you are subscribed to. When users join a project or subscribe to an organization paying for such data services they will be given a prompt with the option to opt-out of having their data collected.
2. **Data on people a client doesn't work with:** For example, a political campaign may want data on how people are talking about the issue of Education in order to make sure their message aligned with the voice of voters. In such instances, only *anonymized, aggregated data* will be provided to customers; and users will given a prompt to opt-in to sharing such data whenever they first create content on CivNet. In addition, CivNet will make its best efforts to make such anonymized, aggregated data available to the public by seeking clients such as newspapers.

Who We Sell Data Services To

CivNet will not contract with clients that seek to use the data generated by CivNet communities to take advantage of or manipulate those communities.

CivNet does have operating costs for the workers and technology we use that make this possible. So we are funded by a combination of community members, foundations, non-profits, for-profits, and local and state government to collaboratively cover those costs for CivNet to function and provide this valuable service.

How We Are Protecting User Data

In accordance with industry standards, your account settings are password-protected and all data exchanged between your web browser and CivNet is protected by SSL encryption. Please help keep your account safe by using a strong password. Also, please note that emails, including email notifications from CivNet, and instant messages between users are not encrypted.