

TECH TALK & PIZZA

Presented by the
Technology Committee
of the
**Greater Delray Beach
Chamber of Commerce**

February 15, 2006

Guide to Safe Surfing



THE CHALK BOARD

Before you surf...

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Guide to Safe Surfing

The Wild West?

- The Mydoom worm infected approximately a quarter-million computers in a single day in January 2004. (Times Online).
- Back in March 1999, the Melissa virus was so powerful that it forced Microsoft and a number of other very large companies to completely turn off their e-mail systems until the virus could be contained.
- The ILOVEYOU virus in 2000 had a similarly devastating effect. That's pretty impressive when you consider that the Melissa and ILOVEYOU viruses are incredibly simple.

The Wild West?

A personal computer connected to the Internet without a firewall can be hijacked in just a few minutes.

- The only way to make your computer 100% secure is to turn it off or disconnect it from the Internet.
- The real issue is how to make your computer 99% secure when it is connected.
- Not having protection is like leaving your car running with the doors unlocked and the keys in it which a thief might interpret as "please steal me".

The Wild West?

- Spyware is a category of computer programs that attach themselves to your operating system in nefarious ways. They can suck the life out of your computer's processing power.
- They are designed to track your Internet habits, nag you with unwanted sales offers or generate traffic for their host Web site.
- According to recent estimates, more than two-thirds of all personal computers are infected with some kind of spyware.
- If you connect an unprotected PC to the Internet, it will be attached within 15 Seconds.

Bottom Line

- If a personal firewall is the sheriff, a posse is needed to help the sheriff capture the pests sent out by Internet outlaws like spyware, browser hijackers, viruses, Trojan horses, worms, spam and hybrids thereof.
- A layered approach is best to protect your security and privacy.

First Line of Defense

- Choose an Internet service provider or an email service that offers online (server side) virus and spam email filters.

Second Line of Defense

- Install a wired or wireless hardware router with a built in firewall between your modem and your computer or network.

Third Line of Defense

- Use personal firewall, anti-spyware, anti-virus, anti-Trojan, anti-spam, and privacy software on every computer on your home network. Cost should not be an issue since there is good security freeware available. You can also consider a security software suite or a broadband gateway (software and hardware combo) instead of using individual products.

PC Firewall

- In architectural terms, a firewall is a fireproof wall that acts as a barrier between one part of the building and another.
- A PC firewall is software that acts as a barrier between your PC and the Internet.
 - Zone Labs – a check point product
 - Norton Internet Security – a Symantec product
 - Internet Security Suite 2006 – a McAfee Product

Antispyware

In general spyware is any software, without your knowledge or consent, is installed on your computer; gathers data from your PC; transmits that information to other; and/or takes control of your PC.

There are different approaches to handling spyware; reactive and proactive.

- CounterSpy – Sunbelt software
- Spy sweeper – Webroot software
- Ad-Aware Personal – Lavasoft software

...Before you surf

For more information contact:

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While you're surfing...

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Guide to Safe Surfing

Safe surfing for:

- You
- Your child(ren)

Safe Surfing for you

- Follow the preventative measures
- Know your sites (and what's not!)
- Use alternative browsers (Firefox, etc)
- Know how to close popups
- Avoid “freebies” and file-sharing

Safe Surfing for you

- Protect your personal information
- Websites (security, privacy, and more)
- “Web-only” email addresses
- “Web-only” credit card
- Don’t respond to phishing scams

Safe Surfing for your child

- Location, location, location
- Parental controls
- Filter software
- Chatrooms vs IM
- When they stumble across something bad...

Safe Surfing for your child

- Parent – Child contract
- Don't give out personal info
- No online forms or site registration
- No meeting anyone from online IM
- No installing software
- No “online secrets”

Safe Surfing for your child

- Be prepared to talk
- Share your experiences or those of others
- Be prepared to re-negotiate
- Don't over-react!

... While you're surfing

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After you surfed...

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Guide to Safe Surfing

You got infected – now what?

Basic FOUR Step Approach to Remediation

- A. Remove the junk
- B. Prevent it from running
- C. Sledgehammer tech support
- D. Macintosh

Removing the junk – Part I

- Lavasoft Ad-Aware
- Spybot Search and Destroy
- Spyware Doctor
 - Always UPDATE the definitions before scanning!

Removing the junk – Part II

- Uninstall it using Add/Remove Programs
- Manually delete files and folders
- RegEdit (geek glasses required!)

Prevent it from running

- Check the “Startup” folder on the Start Menu
- Check the “Startup” tab in the System Configuration Utility (MSConfig)
- Startup in “SAFE MODE”
(no wonder Microsoft hired The Stones to sing Start Me Up!)
- RegEdit (geek glasses required!)

Sledgehammer tech support

- Twelve-gauge shotguns, steamrollers and explosives also work well
- Open heart surgery
 - Install C: drive in another machine as secondary
- Back-to-the-Future
 - Restore system using OEM recovery disks

Macintosh

- Yes, we have no bananas!
 - Why did Willie Sutton rob banks?
- Alternative browsers
 - Firefox
 - Mozilla
 - Netscape
 - Opera

...After you surfed

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Questions?

Before you surf...

While you're surfing...

After you surfed...



With many thanks to...

- **Bill Wood**, President & CEO
- **Beth Johnston**, Membership Development
- **Todd L'Herrou**, Technology Committee Chairman
- **Anthony Vocaturo**, **Todd L'Herrou** and **Tom Kriete**

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