

# System Maintenance and Protecting Your Computer

Automate Maintenance Tasks

Key Elements of Protection

July 6, 2006

Dana Gould

# Automating Tasks

- Windows Update
- Disk Cleanup
- Defragmentation
- Anti-Virus Scan

# Windows Update

- Windows XP Automatic Updates
  - My Computer – Properties
- Non Windows XP
  - [www.windowsupdate.com](http://www.windowsupdate.com)
  - Scan for Updates

# Prerequisites To Schedule Tasks

- Turn off all programs
  - Especially Screensaver
- Establish a Password

# Automate Defragmentation Process

- Need a 'Work Around'

Open Notepad Word Processor

Type **defrag C:bat**

Give File a name (like **Defrag C**)

Save File as "**All Files**", not **.txt**

Save to the Desktop

# Use the Task Scheduler to Automate

- Open Task Scheduler
- Select “Add Scheduled Task”
- Follow Task Wizard
- Scroll or Browse to the Application
- Select Time and Date
- Automate

# Safeguarding Your Computer

The Key

Update - Update - Update

# Protecting Your Computer

- Keep Operating System up to date
- Install a barrier between your computer and the Internet
- Keep out the bad stuff
  - Malicious software
  - Spyware that monitors your activities

# Firewalls

- A firewall is a piece of hardware and/or software that functions in a networked environment to prevent communications forbidden by a security policy, analogous to firewalls in building construction
- Ideal Firewall protection
  - Hardware Firewall (router)
  - Software Firewall

# Hardware Firewalls



- Router –A router is usually connected to at least two networks. Routers are located at gateways, the place where two or more networks connect
- Several brands on the market  
    Linksys – D-Link – Belkin..... Price \$35-80

# Software Firewalls

- Ones That Cost Money
  - Norton Firewall
  - McAfee
  - PC-cillan Internet Security
- Ones That Are **FREE**
  - Zone Alarms (**recommended**)
  - Kerio Personal Firewall
  - Windows Firewall
  - Sygate Personal Firewall

# Anti-Virus Software

- Ones That Cost Money
  - Norton Anti-Virus
  - McAfee Anti-Virus
  - Trend Micro PC-Cillin
  - Kaspersky Personal Anti-Virus
- Ones That are **FREE**
  - Windows Defender (beta)
  - **AVG Free** - Pro Version \$33
  - Anti-Vir Personal Edition

# Malware Protection

- Spyware Prevention
  - Webroot Spysweeper (\$30)
  - Spyware Blaster (**free**)
- Spyware Detection
  - AdAware SE (**free**)
  - Spybot Search & Destroy (**free**)
- Stop Pop-up Advertising
  - Packaged Protection – Security Suites
  - Google Toolbar (**free**)
  - PopUp Stopper (**free**)

# Testing Your Computer

## All Free

- PC PitStop – a bunch of tests
  - Anti-Virus, Spyware....more
- Shields Up – Internet Security Check
- Firewall Leak Test (GRC)
- HackerWacker – Security Scan
- Audit My PC – Pop Up Ad Checker
- Trend Micro – Virus Check

# Best Overall Protection

- Hardware Firewall  
(Router)
- Software Firewall
- Anti-Virus Software
  - More Than One
- Windows Update

# Summary

- **PROTECT** your computer from all kinds of hazards on the Net
- Keep your Operating System and Anti-Virus Software **Up to Date**
- Automate hard drive **MAINTENANCE**
- **BACK UP** your files/documents on a regular basis