

Session Notes – Securing Our Information

Presented by Orv Jordahl, UWRA ETC Member, April 25, 2018

- **Home Firewall Routers**
The firewall router is your first line of defense against digital intruders trying to steal your info.
Do ****NOT**** leave factory default password!!!
Change Admin password (make it strong) and keep the router's firmware up-to-date
- **The Problems with Passwords Today**
People use ~12 passwords for ~150 online accounts.
Don't reuse passwords, do use strong passwords, use a password manager!
- **Introduction to Password Managers**
Video shows reasons for using a password manager
LastPass, Dashlane & 1Password are all good, LastPass by far the market leader
- **Setting up a LastPass account, installing & Using LastPass (video tutorial)**
Search YouTube for "LastPass 101", then select session titled "LastPass End User Training 2018"
There are numerous LastPass YouTube videos, some better than others, so beware.
See <https://www.lastpass.com>
- **Selecting a LastPass version (Choose either Free, Premium, or Families version)**
- **Intro to DNS (Domain Name System) – turns Internet names into numeric IP addresses**
- **Use Quad 9 (9.9.9.9) for your DNS Server (makes Internet use safer and more private)**
A free service provided by IBM, PCH, and Global Cyber Alliance. See <https://quad9.net>
- **Public WiFi Security – don't use public Wi-Fi networks for financial, health or other personal data**
If prompted to login to the network, verify it's real by "lying" (e.g., wrong hotel room #).
Always use https:// for web browsing, not just http://
Immediately after connecting to a public Wi-Fi network, establish a VPN connection.
- **VPN Intro & Use – (VPN == Virtual Private Network)**
Provides an encrypted "tunnel" between your computer and the VPN server, gets past prying eyes.
Recommended VPN Service: Private Internet Access (www.privateinternetaccess.com)
- **Virtual Credit Card Numbers -- Credit card numbers for use with a single online merchant**
You can have many virtual credit card numbers associated with your account
Example shown: Capital One Eno system (<https://www.capitalone.com/eno/virtualnumbers>)
- **App Data & Security – Beware the Terms of Service and Privacy terms**
Facebook is most "in the news" example, and is a rapidly evolving issue
If concerned, keep your Facebook account if you want and/or delete all data about you (90 days)

- **Impact of EU's GDPR (European Union's General Data Protection Regulation)**
 - Directly applies to ANY business that processes or controls information about EU residents**
 - Applies even if the business is not in a EU country!**
 - Fines for violators are the higher of 20 million euros or 4% of the business's gross annual income.**
 - US residents may benefit because online companies may apply EU processes to all customers**
 - The US may eventually adopt similar data protection laws.**

- **Use DuckDuckGo as your search engine - not Google, Yahoo, et. al. DuckDuckGo does not track your searches, thus you will never see advertising based on DuckDuckGo Internet searches (unlike Google)**

- **Use "Incognito" or "Private" browser mode – prevent tracking**
 - When using these modes, websites you browse cannot automatically see any data about you.**
 - All traces of your browsing activities are deleted when you close the browser tab/window.**
 - These modes do not automatically have access to your Google account or your stored cookies**

- **Ad Blocker Browser extensions: "uBlock Origin" & "uBlock Origin Extra"**
 - A good ad blocker generally improves your web browsing experience.**
 - uBlock Origin's browser extensions are the best at this.**
 - Note: some websites will not display correctly if ads are blocked.**

- **Store photos of important paper documents in LastPass Secure Notes**
 - Scan to PDF or take photos of important document pages**
 - Attach these PDF or JPG files to your password manager's secure notes list.**

- **Use a fireproof safe or a bank safe deposit box – i.e., protect important documents somehow, either by storing in a fireproof safe at home else by renting a bank safe deposit box.**