Home Office Security

KEEPING YOU, YOUR FAMILY & THE COUNTY SAFE

Presented by Summit County OIT

THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
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Best Practices and Scope

- Focus will be primarily on the equipment provided by the county along with what you provide such as modems/routers provided by your internet company at home
- Device protection – what OIT provides for your county devices
- Best practices for using your devices, particularly related to email and the Internet and steps to take to stay safe
- Device protection – guidance for what you can do to protect your personal and family devices and safety precautions, and in turn protecting the county as well

When working from home you need an internet connection and with that comes great responsibility

- Router – your primary point of connection
  - Change your router's username and password. Most routers ship with default login credentials that are public knowledge and must be changed immediately.
  - Change the SSID (Service Set Identifier). The SSID is the name of your wireless network. Change it to something unique and protect it with a strong password.
  - If available, enable automatic updates so your router is always on the most recent firmware or software version.

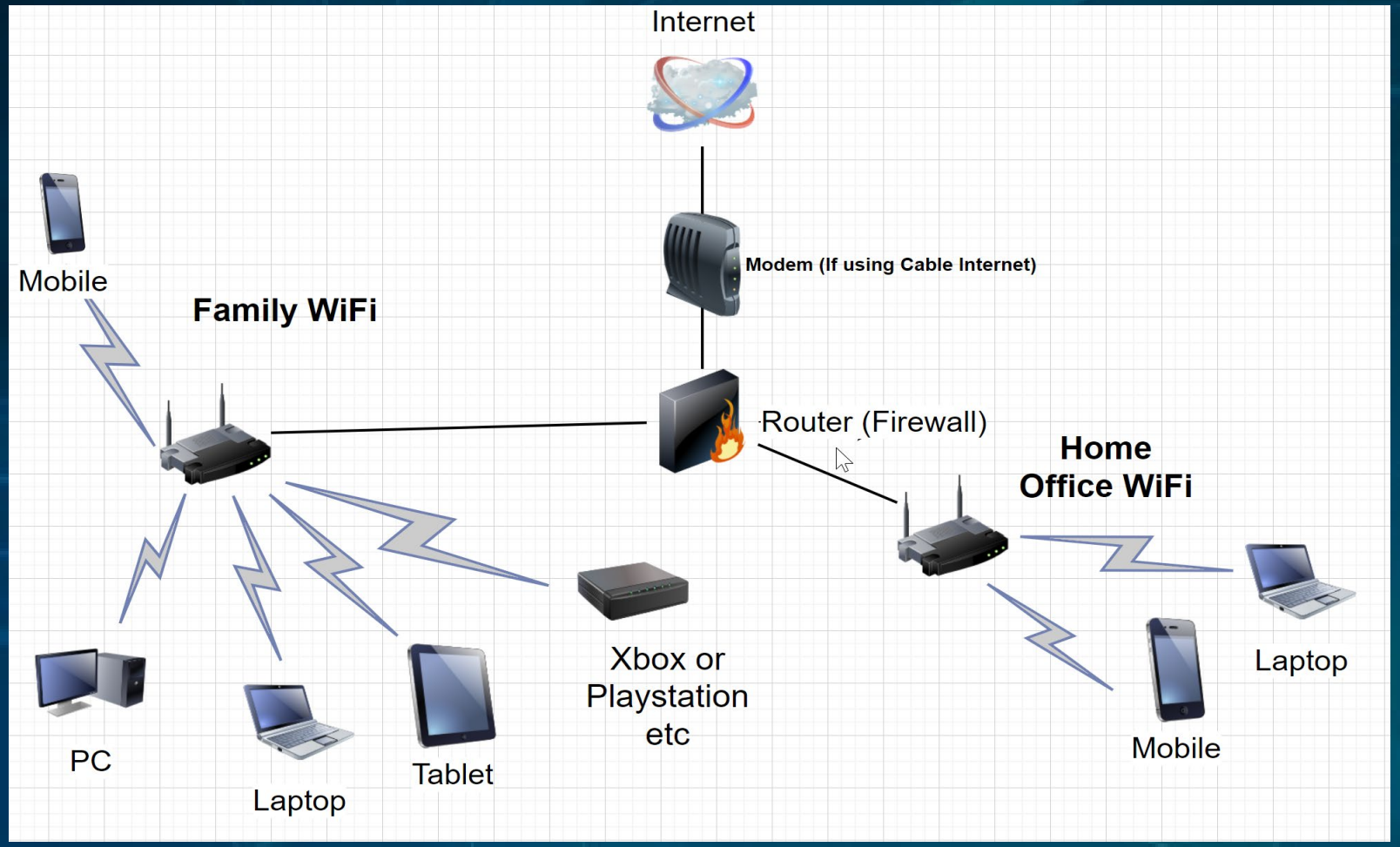
In a perfect world….

- Your Router as previously mentioned is your primary point of connection
  - It would be ideal for security but not always practical to have 2 routers in your home that provide internet access and WiFI that would create 2 separate networks
    - 1 for your family and home
    - 1 for your Home Office (County Device Connections)

    This could also be accomplished by checking to see if your router supports multiple SSID's or even Guest networks

    These separate SSID's or Routers keep personal and work related internet traffic and activity separated and provide multiple benefits

What would this look like?



Benefits of Network Separation

- Having 2 separate WiFi networks provides and extra layer of protection for both your family and the county
- It virtually and/or physically separates your home and work related internet and network traffic
- Family devices such as TV's, mobile devices, tables, game consoles like Xbox, Playstation etc, laptops and computer towers CANNOT communicate with your County devices and vice versa
- This separation is beneficial if there is an issue on one WiFi network it cannot spread to the other and affect all connected devices

Examples of County Device Protection -

- Endpoint Protection (Sometimes referred to as XDR) –
  - Provided by OIT on your county devices
    - Malware detection and prevention
    - Antivirus
    - Ransomware detection and prevention

What else can you can do to protect your family and personal devices

- Antivirus software – Avast, AVG, Avira, Comodo, and many others are available for FREE for home usage
- AntiMalware – MalwareBytes, CCleaner
- Ransomeware protection – Windows 10 and higher has a hidden setting to turn on Ransomeware protection for folders and file types (NOT ENABLED BY DEFAULT) –Best to use OneDrive as this inherently provides this level of protection
- As always remember what we have learned about email scams and phishing et. al.
- Parental controls built into devices, phones and even game consoles (even though your kids might tell you otherwise)
- Parental controls on routers i.e.
  Time limits on internet surfing
  Website and content controls and blocking – OpenDNS is excellent, however need to further lockdown device settings so DNS cannot be changed
  Nice console and request unblocks can be sent to parents

VPN (Virtual Private Network)

- Software and Protocols to use a public network such as the internet to connect to a company network or other location securely
  - Can be hardware or software based
    - How does the county accomplish this?
    - The County Uses Palo Alto Global Connect Client software to connect to create a secured connection to our routers/firewall to provide you with network and county resources remotely
  - VPN software or apps can also be used on your personal equipment such as your computer towers, mobile devices i.e. cell phones, tablets and laptops to protect your privacy location and details of searches and web surfing for you and your family
    - Software based recommendation for personal devices, phones, laptops etc. Proton VPN
    - Hardware Based VPN functionality is built into specific brands and models of firewalls/routers (can be purchased on a retail basis i.e Microcenter, and online

Safeguarding Accounts like email etc.

- Turn on 2 Step authentication for all of your email and online accounts that support this security function
- Allows you to verify login and devices by sending a code to an alternative email address or device
  - Gmail – go into user dashboard/account settings
  - Other email account settings for this can be accessed in a similar fashion i.e. Yahoo, Outlook personal accounts (yes Hotmail is still around too)

  Make sure to enable 2 factor authentication especially on accounts that are tied into you mobile devices.
  For example, if you have an iphone make sure this is enabled for the email account you use for iCloud and App store etc (same account)

  On Android devices the main email account you set your phone up with (the account that is tied into the Google Play Store) needs to have 2 step authentication enabled as well.

Summary

- We all play a role in network security and preventing data leaks and cyber attacks. Security awareness and critical thinking are key.
- If you have any questions regarding this presentation or would like more info please feel free to contact me via Microsoft Teams or via email at mmcvey@summitoh.net
- If you have any immediate security concerns please contact the OIT Support Desk @ (330) 643-2013 or submit the help forms for incidents or requests at https://snow.summitoh.net