PLUMAS COUNTY TECH TIPS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TECHNOLOGY TODAY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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What are we up to in I.T.?

Website Redesign

As you may have heard, we are in the process of a website redesign. This project is intended to give the website a refreshed, modern look. We are currently looking for photos of all areas in Plumas County to feature. If you or someone you know would like to submit photos, please email them to melodiesylvia@countyofplumas.com.

Another aspect of the website design is getting feedback on what we want the future website to look like. If you are interested in being on the "Website Redesign Committee", please reach out to Melodie. We'd like to have input from county employees on website re-design elements to make the website as accessible and representative of Plumas County as possible. If you choose to join the committee, we'll briefly meet every couple of weeks to review the design and discuss options – it won't take up a lot of your time.

The County of Plumas is looking for photos for our website – plumascounty.us

– We are looking for quality photos of each community in Plumas County to feature on our website.

– Photographers will be credited for their submitted artwork if an image is used on the website.

– Please email photos to: melodiesylvia@countyofplumas.com

New Domain Coming Soon

California Assembly Bill AB 1637 was passed on May 31, 2023. Some of the highlights of the bill include *"This bill, no later than January 1, 2027, would require a local agency, as defined, that maintains an internet website for use by the public to ensure that the internet website utilizes a ".gov" top-level domain or a ".ca.gov" second-level domain and would require a local agency that maintains an internet website that is non-compliant with that requirement to redirect that internet website to a domain name that does utilize a ".gov" or ".ca.gov" domain. This bill, no later than January 1, 2027, would also require a local agency that maintains public email addresses to ensure that each email address provided to its employees utilizes a ".gov" domain name or a ".ca.gov" domain name."*

To get ahead of the 2027 deadline, we are currently looking at options to change our current domain – countyofplumas.com to a .gov domain. The plan is to first switch the domain over when we go live with the website redesign in late October 2023 and then work on switching our email addresses over to the new domain by the end of the year.

We've yet to decide on the exact domain name, but it will end in .gov. Check out our future newsletters for the final decision and a timeline of the roll-out. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to I.T.

Summer Scams You Should Watch Out For

While you are getting ready for your next beach vacation, cybercriminals are preparing for their opportunity to strike.

According to the research company, "In May 2023, the period running up to summertime, 29,880 new domains related to holidays or breaks were created. This represents a 23% year-over-year increase compared with the same period last year when 24,367 new domains were created. Of those websites that went live, 1 in every 83 were either malicious or suspicious."

Pop-Ups

As you search through a multitude of websites, mapping out the best vacation for your family, beware of pop-ups. Some may look like they are from a recognizable source, with statements such as "Update Flash Player" or "Your AppleCare® needs updating" and "Call the number below." DO NOT call a phone number on any pop-up. Be wary of any tech support unexpectedly contacting you, as many scammers will try to offer a "free security scan" – attempting to gain access to your computer by convincing you it is infected. If you are worried about the software on your computer, contact the company directly by opening a new window and going to their technical support. This way you will truly know you are speaking to someone from the company.

Email Scams

You have booked the hotels, picked your excursions, and now you wait for the confirmation emails. Your inbox feels overloaded with the price quotes that didn't make the trip and hotels without a pool. This is the time to be extra careful when clicking through emails. We have included five steps to avoid taking the bait of a phishing scam, below.

DON'T GET HOOKED by a PHISHING SCAM

5 Steps to Avoid Taking the Bait of a Phishing Scam

- Don't download pictures in email unless it is necessary.
- Don't open email attachments that you are not expecting.
- Don't click on links embedded in email; go to your browser and type in their address.
- Don't buy things or make charity donations in response to spam email.
- Slow down and double check everything especially the recipients before hitting send.