

Additional tips besides Antivirus Software

Last Updated: 04/26/2013

Overview

Antivirus software is reactive; safe computing is proactive protection.

This means that your computer will have protection after a new virus or worm begins making its way across the Internet. The safe computing practices below can help you stay protected before the latest virus or worm appears.

- Be suspicious of attachments and unexpected e-mail messages
- Use antivirus software to scan anything that you receive in your e-mail
- True company-based e-mails never send attachments
- Make sure the link actually goes to the site you're interested in & not a spoofed one!
- Be careful about clicking on embedded web links in e-mail
- Be cautious about web sites you visit
- Enable your computer's firewall (a feature included with Windows XP Professional software)
- Don't enter sensitive information on a site you don't trust
- Make sure online transactions are actually secure (look for the lock on the bottom right of your browser window)
- Don't just click on a link, copy it into your web browser and open it that way - that even includes CABQ links in the e-mails we send!
- Don't click on pop-ups or ads
- Be wary of e-mails asking for personal or financial information
- Use VPN (Virtual Private Network). CABQ utilizes a secure AnyConnect solution provided with the authorization of your supervisor.
- Keep your operating system and antivirus software up to date
- Don't let your browser be "helpful" by allowing auto fill-out of forms
- Use common sense. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

- Be wary of unsolicited technical advice
- Remember, e-mail messages shouldn't be considered secure. Because e-mail can be forwarded to anyone, consider the messages you send public information
- Always remember to log-off when connecting to secure web sites. If you do not, the next user of the computer may have access to your data
- Public computers may not always be securely configured and pose a threat to your privacy by storing your password or web cookies. Think twice about going to a secure site if you can not verify the security of the computer