

# Bits of Bytes

Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Computer Application Society, Colorado Springs, CO

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## The Prez Sez

by Joe Nuvolini, President, P\*PCompAS

Now that we know all about the Cloud (last month's topic) we must come down to earth and learn about "How Hackers Hack." I hope you all survived the blizzard of '19. Not much happened at my place. Had to sweep the snow off my satellite dish one time. I hope to get our Echo Dot set up for the April meeting so we can get it in a special drawing. We'll see some of the things it will do. I have printed out several of the interesting Amazon messages that list commands you can give Alexa to try. Hope to see you all there! ☺



## Meeting Minutes

by Cary Quinn, P\*PCompAS

President Joe Nuvolini called the 2 March 2019 meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. We are no longer using Starbucks for coffee, and are down to our last bag. Coffee and doughnuts are free to first-time visitors and a dollar donation for others. Minutes from last month's meeting were approved.

### OFFICER REPORTS

President Joe Nuvolini got an e-mail requesting information on benefits of APCUG, and provided a list of benefits with value in excess of our standard membership fee.

## Next P\*PCompAS meeting: Saturday, 6 April 2019

The topic will be "How Do Hackers Hack?"

VP Jeff Towne said the presentation today was on Dropbox and OneDrive. President Nuvolini mentioned this is a useful presentation in light of Microsoft dropping Homegroup support in Windows 10. Next month will be a presentation on hacking.

Secretary Cary Quinn had nothing to report.

Treasurer Chuck Harris said we had one expense for the Volunteer Luncheon, which was \$207.76. The checking account balance was \$175.62.

Editor Greg Lenihan passed out some newsletters and stated the next deadline was March 23rd.

Librarian Paul Godfrey was not present.

Membership Chair Ann Titus said Bob Kotz was a new member, but he was sick today.

Hospitality Chair Ilene Steinkruger had nothing to report.

BOD Chairman Joe Nuvolini had nothing to report, and said he would need to have a meeting sometime. Maybe at the breakfast.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our next breakfast is March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Golden Corral.

Our next meeting is April 6<sup>th</sup>.

### PROGRAM

Jeff Towne gave a presentation on using Dropbox in the Cloud. ☺



Jeff Towne preparing to tell us how he uses Dropbox

## Mouse Tip: Shift key and mouse click

Many text editors and programs allow you to highlight all or portions of text using the Shift key and the mouse. For example, click at the beginning of text and hold down the Shift key, scroll to the bottom, and click at the end of the text to highlight all of the text.

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## ***Biggest Mistake People Make When Getting Rid of Old Computers, Gear, and Printers***

by Mark Jones at Komando.com (tip from 3/19/19)

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Do you have any old tech piling up just collecting dust? If so, you may be thinking about donating or selling it.

This is a good idea, especially since gadget prices are skyrocketing. Tons of people are in the market for a gently used smartphone or computer, rather than spend the big bucks on a brand new one.

However, there is one critical step that many people are forgetting to take before getting rid of an old device.

They forget to permanently delete sensitive data, and that's a huge mistake.

### **Never hand over personal information by mistake**

People have been selling and donating old tech for years. One security researcher decided to find out just how many people remembered to delete their personal information before handing over an old device. You'll be surprised at just how many did not delete it properly.

Josh Frantz recently purchased 85 devices from businesses that sold refurbished, donated, or used computers. He ended up spending about \$600 on a bunch of desktop and laptop computers, flash drives, memory cards, hard disk drives, and a few cellphones.

Frantz posted what he discovered on his [rapid7 blog](#).

What he found was shocking!

Of the 85 devices he bought, only two were wiped properly. Most of the devices still had tons of information on them.

With help from a script he wrote, Frantz found 214,019 images, 148,903 emails and 3,406 documents. From all that he was able to see email addresses, dates of birth, Social Security and credit card numbers. Yikes!

Don't let this happen to you. Before donating or selling a device, you need to make sure everything has been deleted properly.

If you haven't properly deleted private documents saved on your device, they can be found later on down the road. All those deleted letters, financial documents and compromising photos are still lurking on the computer. All it takes is a little know-how to recover them.

But why? When a file is deleted, your operating system removes the link to the file and marks the space free. Until it's overwritten by new information, that file will still exist on your hard drive.

If you consider the size of hard drives, it could be some time until that file is really gone for good. And just think about that old computer you're going to sell on eBay. You could be turning over your entire digital life to a stranger. Who wants that?

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## The Best Free Dropbox Alternatives (For More Than 3 Devices)

By Chris Hoffman, reprinted with permission from [HowToGeek.com](http://HowToGeek.com)

Original article at: <https://www.howtogeek.com/407715/the-best-free-dropbox-alternatives-for-more-than-3-devices/>

Dropbox now limits free users to a maximum of [three syncing devices](#) at one time. If you need more devices and don't want to open your wallet, Google, Microsoft, and even Apple are superior to Dropbox.

This is a similar restriction to the one Evernote put in place. Evernote's free account only lets you sync your notes to two devices. Both services are clearly trying to convert more free users to paying customers.

### Google Drive – 15 GB



Google Drive is a great storage service. It offers 15 GB of free storage—although that's shared with your Gmail account—and can sync to an unlimited number of devices. That sure beats Dropbox's 2 GB and three devices.

Google's Backup and Sync software even lets you easily back up and sync other folders on your computer outside the Google Drive folder. Our own Michael Crider

called it "[one of the best backup options around](#)" over at Review Geek. It's available for both Windows and macOS.

Of course, Google Drive is integrated with Google Docs so you can easily create and work with documents. Google provides mobile apps so you can access your files on Android, iPhone, and iPad. And you can access your files anywhere in a browser.

RELATED: [Google Drive Has Quietly Become One of the Best Backup Options Around](#)

### Microsoft OneDrive – 5 GB Free



Microsoft's OneDrive service offers 5 GB of free storage, which isn't as much as Google's 15 GB but is certainly more than Dropbox's 2 GB. Like Google Drive, OneDrive doesn't limit

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We have a ways to go before the digerati take over the room, but we're getting there. Come join the gang for a delightful brunch with like-minded geeks.



*Dropbox Alternatives (Cont. from page 3)*

how many devices you can sync to. You can have as many PCs, Macs, phones, and tablets as you need.

OneDrive is particularly convenient because it's built right into Windows 10. It also uses a "[Files On-Demand](#)" system that will store your files in the cloud while showing them in File Explorer on your PC. They'll be downloaded when you double-click them to open them. That's optional, of course—you can disable this and OneDrive will function just like Dropbox, if you like it to.

While OneDrive is integrated with Windows 10, that's not the only platform it's available on. Microsoft also offers OneDrive clients for macOS, Android, iPhone, and iPad. You can access your files via the OneDrive website in a browser, too.

**RELATED:** [How to Use OneDrive's Files On-Demand in Windows 10's Fall Creators Update](#)

**Apple iCloud Drive – 5 GB Free**

Apple's iCloud Drive is [famously stingy](#), only offering 5 GB of storage for all your device backups, photos, and files. But even it offers more space than Dropbox's 2 GB, and it doesn't limit the devices you can access your files on.

This might be a good option if you're a Mac user, as iCloud Drive is built into your operating system and offers 5 GB free (shared with iPhone backups and iCloud photo library). If you're paying Apple for

more iCloud storage, you can use that storage to sync your files with iCloud Drive. And there are no device limits.

While iCloud Drive is built into macOS, Apple also offers [iCloud Drive for Windows](#) and you can access your files in a web browser on [iCloud.com](#). There's no official iCloud Drive app for Android, however.

**They're Cheaper Than Dropbox If You Want to Pay, Too**

Dropbox isn't a great deal even if you want to pay. Dropbox charges \$99 per year for 1 TB of storage space.

Google Drive charges \$1.99 a month for 100 GB if you just need a bit of extra storage, while \$99.99 per year will get you 2 TB. And this is part of [Google One](#), which also gives you access to a "team of experts" you can talk to at Google.

Microsoft OneDrive [charges](#) \$69.99 per year for Office 365 Personal, which gives you 1 TB of storage as well as Microsoft Office. For \$99.99, you can get an Office 365 Home family plan where six people get Office apps and each gets 1 TB—that's a total of 6 TB of storage. Or, if you just need a bit of storage, you can pay \$1.99 per month for 50 GB and no Office.

Even Apple's stingy iCloud Drive is a better [deal](#). Apple charges only \$0.99 per month for 50 GB of storage, while \$9.99 per month will get you 2 TB.

We like these options because they're from trusted companies, have a history of offering free storage, and have an incentive to keep doing so. You may find some smaller storage providers that compete quite favorably with Dropbox now, but be sure to look up some reviews before trusting a lesser-known provider with your personal files. ☺

*Mistake (Cont. from page 2)*

**Note:** Don't forget to backup your data before deleting it.

**Permanently erase sensitive data**

If you are selling or donating an old computer, you need to erase sensitive data for good. Here's how:

**Windows PC**

You can get rid of personal data by using software tools like [Eraser](#) or [Blank and Secure](#) for Windows.

Eraser, in particular, has a lot of options for deleting data. It has a simple, clean interface, and can permanently erase data from any drive that works with Windows. You can even schedule deletions to happen automatically.

Blank and Secure is a portable deletion tool that you can store on a USB stick. It "shreds" files by overwriting the data with zeros before deleting, making recovery impossible.

**Mac**

When macOS Sierra was released, Apple removed the secure delete option for both the Trash Can and the Terminal. To

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## Battery Backup Power—What You Need to Know

By Bob Rankin, <http://askbobrankin.com>, published through the APCUG

A concerned reader asks: ‘Do you recommend a backup power supply for computers? During the last storm, my PC crashed and we lost power for several hours. If I had a battery backup, I could have saved my document, and gotten online to check for email and weather updates. I’ve read about Uninterruptible Power Supply units - is that what I need?’



your equipment’s performance and lifespan. If you live in an area where the lights sometimes flicker, or the power drops for just a second and then comes right back, your computer could be damaged. Protections against these types of electrical power

hazards should be part of your UPS.

A line-interactive UPS is also relatively inexpensive; it filters and conditions line power as well as providing battery backup. An on-line UPS provides the highest quality line power and the greatest protection against power outages. Most home computer setups require no more than a standby or line-interactive UPS.

### What Kind of Backup Power Do You Need?

A sudden loss of electrical power can cause your computer to shut down or reboot. Of course, you will lose anything you were working on at the time of the power glitch. But power failures can also cause head crashes in hard drives, which can damage a disk and the data on it. To guard against power failures, I do recommend that you get an uninterruptible power supply (UPS) to provide a backup power source for your computer.

A UPS, at its core, is a battery backup power supply. It includes circuitry that instantly switches from line power to battery power in the event of a power outage. The simplest and cheapest type of UPS, called a standby UPS, does nothing more. But power outages are not the only hazards your computer faces.

Fluctuations in line power quality are much more common than blackouts. A voltage spike or its opposite, a voltage drop, can adversely affect

### What Features Do You Need in a UPS?

A UPS may include other features as well. Monitoring ports on a UPS can tell attached equipment to shut down gracefully in the event of a power outage, in case no one is around to shut things down manually. Fax and modem telephone-style outlets may be provided on a UPS to give these devices surge protection. Some unprotected power outlets may exist for printers and other devices that do not need backup battery power but should be protected against power fluctuations.

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### Mistake (Cont. from page 4)

shred files you’d like to remove from Macs, you’ll need to use a shredding app like [Secure Delete - File Shredder](#). However, it does cost \$4.99 to download.

In case you didn’t know, popular cross-platform tool [CCleaner](#) for PCs and Macs not only does automatic clean-up of your browser cookies, trackers, Internet history, download history, cache and even individual session activity, it also has an option for Secure Deletion of files.

### iPhone

If you’re getting rid of an old iPhone or Android phone, you must

do a hard reset first. This will make sure none of your sensitive data goes with the device.

To hard reset an iPhone directly on the device itself, follow these steps:

1. Open **Settings** >> **General**
2. Now tap **Reset**
3. Select **“Erase All Content and Settings”**
4. Tap **“Erase iPhone”** on the prompt
5. Enter your Apple ID password then tap **“Erase”** to begin the factory reset process

To hard reset an iPhone using a computer:

1. Connect your iPhone to your computer via USB

2. Open **iTunes**
  3. Select your iPhone or iPad when it appears in iTunes (next to iTunes Store button in the top right corner).
  4. Click on the **Restore** button in the Summary tab to restore it to its factory settings
- That’s all there is to resetting your iPhone exactly the way it was when you bought it brand new.

### Android

To perform a factory reset on an Android phone, follow these steps:

1. Go to your phone’s **Settings**
2. Tap **Backup & Reset**
3. Select **Factory data reset** ☺

*Battery Backup (Continued from page 5)*

The capacity of a UPS is measured in volt-amperes (VA). How much capacity you need in a UPS is a function of the power needs of all the components you wish to protect and the amount of time that you want to be able to run on battery power. APC, a major UPS manufacturer, has a [handy calculator](#) that can help you determine what the capacity of your next UPS should be. Plug in the devices you have (desktop, laptop, monitor, and peripherals) and it will estimate the power needed to keep them running, and give suggestions for APC products that will do the job.

One of the most popular consumer-level UPS models is the [APC Back-UPS 600VA](#) (\$57) which provides battery backup and surge protection for your home computer, router, and peripherals. It has 7 total outlets (5 provide both battery backup and surge protection; 2 offer surge protection only). There's also a USB charging port for your smartphone or tablet. APC says the battery in this model should last 3-5 years, and are replaceable. This model gives you about 25 minutes of battery backup with a 100-watt load. That's enough time to save your work and shutdown, but not a good solution if you want to stay up and running during a longer power outage.

The [APC 1500VA Back-UPS Pro](#) (\$159) is a significant step up. It has 10 outlets, and will keep your gear powered up (100-watt load) for 68 minutes. A display on the unit will tell you how many watts are in use, and the amount of battery time remaining.

Another popular UPS model to consider is the [CyberPower 900VA](#) (\$99). It offers 6 battery backup & surge protected outlets, and 6 surge protected outlets. Data line protection prevents power surges that travel through telephone, coaxial and ethernet lines. CyberPower has a 3-year warranty, including the replaceable battery.

The [Tripp Lite 1500VA](#) (\$162) is also highly rated, and provides up to 90 minutes of runtime for an entry level PC system. Includes user-replaceable batteries, software to enable unattended system shutdown, and 3-year warranty.

[Amazon Basics](#) also has a lineup of Standby UPS models, ranging from 400VA (\$39.99), to 600VA (\$49.99), to 800VA (\$79.99).

**Don't Forget About Your Internet and Phone and TV**

During a storm or other hazard, it's quite possible that the electrical supply lines might be down, but the telephone, cable or fiber optic lines are just fine. A battery backup unit can power your landline phone's base unit, as well the modem/router for your Internet connection. Some internet service providers install an interface box with a battery backup unit. When I had Verizon FIOS service, that battery would only last about 15 minutes. So during power failures, I plugged the FIOS battery backup into a UPS so I could continue to make phone calls and exchange electrons with the Interwebs. For outages longer than a half-hour or so, a gas-powered generator will be necessary.

I've found that purchasing a gas-powered generator is a great way to ensure that you'll never need one. In 2012, Hurricane Sandy heavily damaged the power infrastructure in my area, resulting in outages that lasted for several days. The year before, Hurricane Irene also knocked out power. I assumed that we'd be seeing more of the same, so I purchased a beefy gas-powered generator. But in the past seven years, we've had no outages lasting more than a few minutes. Your mileage may vary.

It's important to conserve every watt of power when running from backup power. So if you have your computer and other gear connected to a UPS, I recommend turning off the printer, speakers, external hard drives and other non-essential items unless you're actually using them. I have a dual-monitor setup, so I power one of them down, too. Laptops and tablets use a lot less power than desktop rigs, so consider moving to a smaller screen when running on auxiliary power.

**But I Already Have a UPS...**

I had a Tripp-Lite TE-600 UPS for many years, and there were many times when the lights flickered in the house, causing televisions and alarm clocks to shut off or reset. My computer never even flinched. Even during power outages, my trusty computer plugged away, while the rest of the house was dark. But during the winds that Hurricane Irene brought to my area, we lost power and my UPS failed when the internal batteries died of old age. Fortunately, I only lost the document I was

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## *Cut the Cord ???*

*By Phil Sorrentino, The Computer Club, FL, [www.sccccomputerclub.org](http://www.sccccomputerclub.org), [Philsorr\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:Philsorr(at)yahoo.com)*

TV is definitely one of our favorite sources of entertainment. The entertainment is created by studios and TV networks and delivered by cable (coax), FIOS (fiber) or satellite (dish). The “cord” (or cable) is our connection to one of these providers. Usually, the same cord also connects us to the Internet, and possibly even provides phone service. Much of what used to be available only as cable TV channels may now be available using the Internet or by receiving local broadcast stations.

In an article I wrote a little over three years ago (7/15) I discussed the thought of “cutting the cord,” which if you’ll remember, is basically eliminating the TV part of your cable service, and therefore the TV expense from your cable bill. Most of us get both TV and Internet from our cable provider and some of us go one step further and have the “triple play;” TV, Internet, and phone from them. So, in order to cut the cord, meaning leaving only the Internet, we would have to replace the TV service (and possibly the phone service), with equivalent services. The phone is pretty straight forward, just find a less expensive service that uses “Voice over the Internet” or VOIP, like Magic Jack or Ooma. The harder part is replacing the entertainment that we get from all the cable channels. Many cable TV packages can include 200+ channels with a lot of special entertainment like ESPN and the History channel, and premium movie channels like HBO and Showtime. Many of these special channels may not be able to be replaced. But if you don’t take advantage of these special channels and are not too demanding in your choice of entertainment, then cutting the cord may be for you. You may be able to satisfy your TV entertainment needs by local broadcast TV augmented by the addition of a streaming device to your TV.

Local “broadcast” TV channels may satisfy a good portion of your entertainment and local (and national) news needs. Local TV channels can be received by an antenna and a broadcast tuner. Most modern TVs have both a tuner for cable (probably the default) and a tuner for broadcast. In the TVs settings or setup, there is typically a choice of “cable” or “air” (or something that indicates broadcast TV, like OTA). The “air” choice uses the broadcast tuner. It may not be well known, but the modulation schemes for these two transmission types are different. (Modulation scheme is the way the picture and sound is put on to a carrier signal for transmission.)

An indication of how successful you may be in receiving local broadcast signals can be found by going to the [antennaweb.org](http://antennaweb.org) website. Click “Click Here To Start,” and on the next screen enter your zip code, then click Submit. The resulting map will show you the broadcast stations that you may receive along with the distance to the transmitting antennas and the direction from your location. The distances and directions will help you decide if it is possible to receive the station and what type of antenna (indoor, outdoor, directional or omni-directional) may be needed. Here are the results for zip code 33573, Sun City Center, FL. All the major networks and a few local stations can be received using an indoor antenna.

If you want to take advantage of broadcast TV and prefer to time-shift your TV watching, TiVo, SiliconDust, and Tablo make DVRs (Digital Video Recorder) for recording your shows. Don’t forget that you also need a “guide” so that you can schedule the recordings. The guide may be a monthly expense or it may be bundled into the cost of the device. Some DVRs even allow you

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### *Battery Backup (Cont. from page 6)*

working on, and I’ve since replaced that unit with a beefier model that’ll run my desktop appliances for at least 30 minutes.

A UPS contains a battery, of course; typically, a lead-acid battery

much like the one in your car. Such batteries are generally good for several years, but eventually they do need to be replaced. UPS units and replacement batteries are available online, but pay close attention to shipping charges; these things are heavy and expensive

to ship! I found a good deal on a \$12 battery from BatterySharks <https://www.batterysharks.com/> but the shipping cost added another \$10. You might want to shop locally when purchasing a UPS or replacement batteries. ☺

## *Do I Need a New E-Mail Address if Mine's Involved in a Breach?*

By Leo Notenboom, <https://newsletter.askleo.com>; published under the Creative Commons License

If you discover that your email address is part of a breach, you probably do not need to change it. But there are steps to take to protect yourself.

*My email address was in one of breaches we keep hearing about. Is that address still safe to use? Should I get a new email address?*

There's no need to get a new address just because your email account was part of a [breach](#) — as long as you can still log in to your account.

There are steps you should take, but that's not one of them.

If you can't log in to your e-mail account any more, though, you may have no other choice.

### Summary

- If you can log in to your e-mail account, you don't need a new e-mail address.
- If you can't log in, and you can't recover access, then you do.
- Specific breach-related steps depend on what's known about the breach.
- Strong vigilance and security for all accounts are the best ways to prevent problems.

### If you can't log in

If you can't log in to your e-mail account and you've pursued all the approaches to recover access ... well, it's not your account any more. [Email Hacked? 7 Things You Need to Do NOW](#) covers the basics of what you need to do and the

steps you need to take.

Whether or not it's related to any reported breach doesn't matter. Regardless of how it happened, you've lost access to your account.

When that happens, you really have no other option; you'll need to get a new account and let your contacts know you have a new email address.

### If you know the breached service

If you learn that your e-mail address is part of a breach, and you know which service was breached, the most important step to take is simple.

Change your password.

Change your password at that

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### *Cut the Cord (Cont. from page 7)*

to buzz through the commercials during playback.

In addition to local broadcast stations, some TV programs can be watched simply using a browser on your computer, or an app on a tablet or smartphone. Many shows are available at [www.abc.com](http://www.abc.com), [www.cbs.com](http://www.cbs.com), [www.nbc.com](http://www.nbc.com), and [www.fox.com](http://www.fox.com). You can't always get every episode of every show, but usually you can get the last few episodes of all of the major shows. Unfortunately, you will have to watch the commercials attached to the shows.

Streaming devices, the other part of replacing the Cable TV channels, can provide access to a collection of current shows and a large assortment of movies. Streaming devices can be as basic as the Roku Streaming Stick and the Amazon Fire stick, or as elaborate as Apple TV or nVidia ShieldTV. Each of these devices provides the ability to use apps (clients) that can access the major streaming services.

These streaming devices act as the "clients" in Client-Server Technology where the Server is the Cloud Service that the client accesses for the streaming entertainment. Streaming entertainment may come from Netflix, Hulu, DirectTV Now, Amazon Prime Video, HBO Now, SlingTV, or YouTubeTV. And there are a host of lesser known

services like, PhiloTV, Fubo, and Tubi. Most of these require a monthly subscription fee in the \$10 to \$40 per month range. Most will give you a one-month free trial. Tubi advertises itself as a free service that provides movies and TV shows. (And by the way, you can even stream music with the Pandora or Spotify free streaming music services.)

A streaming device is fairly easy to set up. Just connect it to your TV via one of the HDMI inputs on the TV, and get it on to your Wi-Fi (yes, you'll need the Wi-Fi password). Once you have the streaming device set up, you might want to give Tubi (the free one) a try just to see how streaming works. And finally, if you don't mind TV on a small screen, the Pluto TV Android app provides access to movies and some live TV channels.

When all is said and done, I suspect that many of us feel that we pay too much for the TV part of the cable bill, because of the ever-increasing cable bills for a collection of cable channels that we hardly ever use. But, on the other hand, most of us have gotten used to the fact that the TV service is convenient and familiar - we don't have to learn anything new to use it. So although with the right combination of broadcast channels and streaming devices, cord cutting may be possible, is it the best thing for you to do? It's your choice. ☺

## ***Get Rid of Your Electronics With a Clean Sweep on April 13***

*Information provided by Ann Titus, P\*PCompAS*

Residents of El Paso and Teller counties can get rid of paints, chemicals, tires, electronics, and other junk at four cleanup events from April to October.

The first Clean Sweep will be from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., April 13, at the county's Household Hazardous Waste Facility at 3255 Akers Drive in Colorado Springs. Others will be June 8, August 10, and October 12.

At no cost, residents **who register online beforehand** can dispose of:

- Electronics: computers or TVs (limited to three per household), printers, fax machines, laptops, tablets, DVD players, VCRs, radios, stereos, and video game consoles
- Paint, stains, strippers, thinners, and varnishes
- Household chemicals, aerosols, ammonia, bleach, cleaners, and lamp oil
- Lawn and garden chemicals, such as fertilizers, pesticides, and plant food
- Automotive chemicals, such as motor oil (10 gallons per household), brake and transmission fluids, waxes, and engine cleaners

- All batteries, from lead-acid vehicle batteries to household batteries.
- Tires for passenger cars and light trucks (nine per household)
- Mattresses and box springs (four pieces per household)
- Fluorescent lighting (100 feet per household)"

Clean Sweep will not accept waste from businesses, containers larger than 5 gallons, lab-grade chemicals, medicines, trash, recyclables, or unlabeled or leaking containers.

To register for April, go to [cleansweepapril2019.eventbrite.com](http://cleansweepapril2019.eventbrite.com), or call 520-7878. ☺



### ***E-mail Breach (Cont. from page 8)***

breached service as soon as you can. Change it to a long and strong password you don't use anywhere else.

It's the bare minimum you need to do, and in many cases, it's really all you need to do — but you don't need a new e-mail account because of it.

### **If you don't know the breached service**

This is a more difficult scenario: you learn your e-mail address was discovered in a data breach, but there's no indication of exactly which online service(s) were breached.

When this happens, I do two things:

1. I change my e-mail password, *just in case* it was my e-mail provider that was breached. This is probably unnecessary and exceptionally rare, but I'd rather be safe.
2. I start watching for odd behavior on all other accounts that e-mail address is associated with, either as login ID or as primary/alternate e-mail.  
That last point is frustratingly vague, but it's the best we can do. And, honestly, it's what we should be doing whether our e-mail addresses show up in breaches or not.

### **Additional security**

I generally don't panic when news of yet-another-breach appears, because I apply strong

security to *all* my accounts. That means:

- Strong passwords, which significantly reduce the probability they could be cracked in a breach.
- Different passwords everywhere, so that when one breach happens it can only impact the account that's been breached.
- Two-factor authentication, so that even if my password is discovered, any attempts by others to use it will fail.

I strongly recommend you do the same, starting with your e-mail account.

But there's no need to get a new e-mail address because of a breach. ☺

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**Coming Events:**

**Next Membership Meeting: 6 April beginning at 9 am (see directions below)**

**Next Breakfast Meeting: 20 April @ 8 am, Golden Corral, 1970 Waynoka Rd.**

**Newsletter Deadline: 20 April**

Check out our Web page at: <http://ppcompas.apcug.org>

