

Granite Broadband Newsletter

July 2010
Issue 2

Local Schools Equip Students with Netbooks



ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Netbooks for Students

Ripon "On-Air" Downtown Wireless Network

Featured Website of the Month

SPAM101: What is it?

Getting Rid of Spam-Tips and Suggestions



Ruckus ZoneFlex Radios used for Ripon OnAir.

Do you remember the days when schools did not have computers? With fast advances in technology that has quickly changed. Schools went from having only computer labs, to a computer in every classroom, and today- a computer for every student.

"School Netbook Programs" are becoming increasingly popular across the United States, and possibly in your backyard. In fact, Granite Broadband has been working with local school districts to help provide their students with Netbooks and wireless Internet.

Netbooks can offer many advantages to students in an educational setting. They provide a solution to

those heavy textbooks by allowing students to access online textbooks and other educational resources. They are also a great tool for word processing, presentation, and keyboarding skills.

Furthermore, Netbooks are compact and lightweight making it easy for students to transport them. Backpacks full of heavy textbooks have proved to cause back problems in young children.

Perhaps the greatest advantage is the positive effects Netbooks have on student learning. Studies have shown that students who use Netbooks or laptops have improved writing and data analysis skills, and the list only goes on from there.



Netbooks vs. Laptops

What is the difference between a Netbook and a Laptop? A Netbook can be defined by its size, price, and power requirements. They are smaller, more affordable, and use much less power than a standard laptop. A typical Netbook is 9" to 10" in screen size, and weighs between 2 to 3 pounds. They generally cost \$200.00-\$400.00 in price.

Ripon, WI Downtown Wireless Network- "Ripon OnAir"

Granite Broadband is pleased to announce our first downtown wireless network is now available in Ripon, WI throughout the historical downtown Watson Street area. The service is called "Ripon OnAir" and can be accessed from nearly any wireless device. Ripon OnAir will be included with all Granite Broadband

residential wireless broadband plans and will be available for visitors to use for a small fee.

The service premiered at the WI Cycling Association State Criterium Championships in Downtown Ripon in June. The service is not yet available to the public, but it is coming soon.

How Does It Work?

Several Ruckus Wireless ZoneFlex radio antennas have been strategically placed throughout downtown Ripon. Current Customer's will be given a login and password to access the network, visitors will be able to purchase brackets of time to use the service.



FEATURED WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

weatherbonk.com

Great weather forecast site with detailed maps and weather-cams. Plus get traffic updates, check out the "traffic" link above the map.

We would Love to hear your comments and suggestions about our newsletter.

Please email Felecia@gbandinc.com

Follow Us On:



Tips to Help

Once you are already on the spammer's list, there are many ways to filter your email. There are various filters you can download or buy. The filter Granite Broadband uses is called *Postini*. Reviews have shown it to be more accurate than almost all other filters.

Unfortunately, spammers are finding new and advanced ways of avoiding filters. The quickest way to get rid of spam is to change your email and start over fresh.

Out in the vast Internet, there are a lot of businesses that want to sell things to people. They all want to convince you to buy their product, not a competitors. Most advertise in some way or another; web page ads, Google ads, popups... and spam.

The purpose of spam is to try to sell you something, similar to postal junkmail. But most people have spam filters, like the Postini filtering Granite Broadband offers. Because of these filters, spammers have the job of trying to sell you something without letting the filters know what they're doing. So, spam lies.

Spammers deliberately misspell words, use broken email encoding techniques, and other tricks to get the mail through the filters and into your mailbox. But the most important thing they do is send vast quantities of spam in hopes that some make it through to you. In other words, spammers send junkmail blindly at millions of email addresses hoping to get a sale.

Because spammers often use illegal methods to send their junk and gather email addresses, most of the advertisers willing to sell that way are shady. Even if you do happen to see a product advertised via spam that you may want, it

is not smart to purchase from spammers.

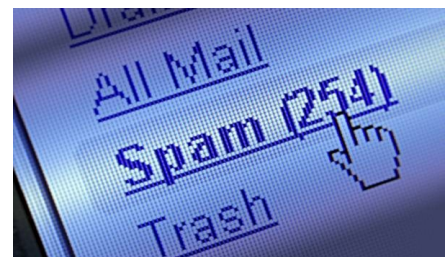
Many spam emails claim to have an unsubscribe feature, but those are usually traps. All they are checking is whether you are actually reading the email; people that read spam (even just to try to unsubscribe) are worth a lot more to spammers than people that never see the spam because it is filtered.

Once on the spammer's lists, you can never get your address off. Your only protection at that point is filtering.

Starting Fresh

If you have a new email address, here are a few things you can do to avoid getting your new address on a spammers lists:

- 1.) Discourage friends and family from including you when they forward emails to everyone they know.
- 2.) Use a throw-away email account when giving your address to "untrusted" people. This includes, some businesses, as well as all contests or promotions.
- 3.) Avoid posting your email in a public place, such as a forum or social network sites.
- 4.) Avoid sign-up forms on websites as well as "forward/send to a friend" links.



A familiar site for many effected by excessive spam emails.