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WIRELESS SERVICE TIPS

Several factors can affect wireless performance, and some may not be so obvious. Here are a few to be aware of . . .

- One of the easiest to spot is trees, which tend to grow a little taller each year and of course leaf out in the summer. Trees that partially block your wireless signal need to be trimmed to maintain best performance.
- Most cordless phones and microwave ovens operate in the same frequency range as Internet service, and these devices generate enough concentrated power to create a lot of interference when in use. If your browser slows noticeably every time the cordless phone rings or you're "nuking" something in the kitchen, now you know why!
- A more serious newcomer is the growth in popularity of in-home wireless networking, using devices now commonly available in consumer electronics stores. These "wireless routers" operate full-time, so there is the potential for significant and nonstop interference. ("Smart" appliances could also apply in this category.)

◆ If you have or are considering in-home or in-office wireless networking, please contact

us to discuss or verify the configuration of your unit to make sure it does not conflict with your primary wireless Internet service. OCS can also provide and configure these units for you, or recommend what to look for if shopping on your own.

DOWNLOADING MUSIC OR MOVIES?

The single largest cause of interference on our overall wireless network is programs like Kazaa, which run constantly on individual computers "sharing" large music and video files with other computers doing the same thing. This floods the available airwaves with a high volume of continuous traffic, and even a relatively small number of users doing this can reduce performance for everyone. There is also another important reason why OCS is increasingly placing restrictions on this kind of usage - the courts are reinforcing that much of it constitutes illegal copyright infringement. More next month . . .

High-Speed Wireless Internet Service is available in Porterville, Springville, Pleasant Valley, River Island, Globe Drive, Strathmore, Terra Bella, Lindsay - and coming soon to Success Valley and Visalia! Call us or see our website for more information!

- OVER 257,000 VIRUSES STOPPED
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Click **USER ADMIN** on our home page main menu to manage your account preferences ... **POPUPS** driving you crazy? See information on our home page ... **EMAIL SECURITY?** Call us about PGP and S/MIME options for sensitive email.

OCS dialup and wireless plans are described at www.porterville.com

Service Plans and Pricing

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767 NORTH PORTER ROAD • PORTERVILLE CA 93257 • 559-781-4123