

# TechTalk

SOCIALLY DISTANT TECHNOLOGY ANSWERS

Issue 5 - June, 2021

## In-Person Tutoring is Back!

Tutoring will once again be held at the Honesdale branch of the Wayne County Public Library. Sign up in person or by phone at The Library. Assistance is available in 30 minute sessions from 4 to 6 PM every 2nd and 4th Wednesday.

We are glad to help you with any questions you have regarding your Android phones and tablets, iPads and iPhones, Windows and Mac computers, or any other technology device!

Here are some tips for your tutoring session:

- Be prepared with your questions.
- Be able to explain what you wish to learn.
- Bring your device(s) fully charged.
- Have your passwords handy.
- Be on time (it's fair to others).
- If you cannot make your appointment please let the library know.

You are welcome to stay with the tutor beyond your scheduled time but attention will be given to the person signed up for that time slot.

## Come join us for a Tutoring Session!

## Questions...

*Cassandra- Popups*

Unfortunately, the internet is full of advertising! But there are ways to reduce the number of ads we are constantly bombarded with by installing an ad blocker. Most ad blockers come in the form of an extension added to your browser (Internet Explorer, Edge, Chrome, Safari, etc.). They can also protect your privacy. Here are a few add-on examples: AdBlock Plus, Poper Blocker, AdBlock, and Stands Fair AdBlocker. Two ad blockers for mobile devices are AdAway(Android) and 1BlockerX(iOS).

While these programs are designed to block advertisements, there's no guarantee that they are 100% effective. Advertisers are constantly looking for new ways to get their message out!

*Elizabeth ~ Confusion about Google Drive and iCloud*

iCloud and Google drive are used as backup and file sharing. Configuring them and using them can be confusing. Each program has a settings functions that can be used for synchronization and backup. Scheduling a session for tutoring would be a good first step in learning how to use them effectively.

*Michele and Jane - How do we reduce data usage on our smartphones?*

There are a number of things that can be done to monitor and reduce your data usage. You can begin by limiting your data usage in iOS or Android Settings under "data". Setting a limit will prevent you from exceeding your allotted data. Secondly you can shut your mobile data off when a wi-fi connection is available. A wireless connection to your home router or a public wi-fi (i.e. the library) does not affect your data usage with your cell phone carrier. You'll also find in settings the ability to restrict background data. You can also simply turn off your data connection until it's needed. This will prevent your phone from using data without your knowledge. Just remember that some apps require an internet connection and may not work properly until they either access your data connection or a wi-fi.

Another thing to think about is not clearing your cache in your web browser. From [www.lifewire.com](http://www.lifewire.com):

"There is an argument for emptying the browser cache (and the cache of other apps) to help keep your phone running smoothly. The cache is a component that stores website data. When that data is requested by the browser, having it in the cache means it can be provided faster, because there's no need for the data to be downloaded from the server. Emptying the cache will free up internal memory and help the system run more smoothly, but it will consume data if you're on a carrier network. Task managers and cleaning utilities often delete the cache, so if you have one of those installed, add your browser to the list of excluded apps."

Lastly, be aware of your usage. The content being accessed varies in it's data requirements.

Streaming video (i.e. YouTube) - Large amounts of data

Streaming audio (podcasts) - Large, but less that video

Web Browsing - Moderate amounts of data depending on site

Pictures (i.e. Pinterest) - Moderate, less than audio

eMail and text messaging, - Very little, unless containing media

## In-person tutoring Available!

Honesdale - Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 4-6 PM

## Tips & Tricks

*From Tyler...*

Who can be trusted in reviewing equipment and software? I usually turn to several reliable sources. Here is a list of reputable websites I trust:

Cnet.com

PC Magazine ([www.pcmag.com](http://www.pcmag.com))

Pcworld.Com

Consumerreports.Org

Tom's Guide ([www.tomsguide.com](http://www.tomsguide.com))

Remember that any time you download ANYTHING from the internet be sure to run a virus scan on the file. To do this, open the "downloads" folder and right click the downloaded file, and select "scan for viruses."

If you don't have a anti-virus program installed, two reliable free programs are: AVG Antivirus and Avast Antivirus.



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Did you know that if you don't have internet access at home that the library has a solution?

Come in and  
ask about  
**Smart Spots**

[waynelibraries.org/smart-spots.html](http://waynelibraries.org/smart-spots.html)

**-REMEMBER -**

You can find us online at:

[www.waynelibraries.org/tech-corner.html](http://www.waynelibraries.org/tech-corner.html)

**And In-Person Tutoring is now available!**

