



Personal Telco Project

Weather Report

“Its All About The Clouds”

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PTP In A Nutshell

We are a volunteer group of Portlanders who believe that 802.11 (wireless networking, or "Wi-Fi") technology is both cool and empowering. We started out by turning our own houses and apartments into wireless hot spots (also referred to as "nodes"), and then set about building these nodes in public locations such as parks and coffee shops. Currently we have over 100 active nodes, and we eventually would like to cover the entire city of Portland, Oregon with even more.

Our Mission Statement

We are here to promote and build public wireless networks through community support and education.

The Art Of The Node

All over the place, from the popular culture to the propaganda system, there is constant pressure to make people feel that they are helpless, that the only role they can have is to ratify decisions and to consume.

Noam Chomsky

Those are my principles, and if you don't like them... well, I have others.

Groucho Marx

If you believe what the media blasts at you over the course of the day you, yes YOU, are the center of the free market universe whose every choice is a statement of personal integrity and hipper than hip beingness. You Think Different, you are a Rock, you Stick It To Da Man and yes you even are An Army Of One.

So why is it that our dealings with those media based parts of our lives leave us feeling frustrated, isolated and poorer for the process?

Then there is the PTP. Where else in your day can you take hold of a project that seeks to cover an entire city with Free Community Networking and make a difference that is felt by the population of a major metropolitan area?

We have looked at different ways to

be a part of the PTP, in this issue we are going to focus on working to get a location in the city become a node.

Its often been said that the PTP is a numbers game. The more nodes we have the more likely it is the PTPnet will survive not only the market forces swirling around it but over time.

The more nodes we have also means the more people and places we can serve with Free Community Networking both to the Internet and the burgeoning PTPnet as well.

Uncovering locations that would make a good PTP nodes is something each of us can and should do. Approaching a location owner is often the stumbling block that stops you from getting the ball rolling.

What follows is a simple script to use when talking to owners of potential nodes. Take it and make it your own, add your voice and flavor to it, whatever you think it needs to work for the situation you find yourself in.

During each Monthly Meeting we stand up and announce the new nodes, some month soon you might find yourself standing up to tell of the node you helped bring to life.

-tomhiggins

I'm interested in becoming a Personal Telco Wi-Fi Hot Spot...

We're pleased to say it's an easy and rewarding process.

PTP or The Personal Telco Project has been in existence for over three years. We are an Oregon 501c3 non-profit; we aim to provide free Internet access and education to all using the popular Wi-Fi wireless standard also called 802.11b/g.

Today we have many public hot spots in the Portland metro area. Access is always free, we don't track users or restrict where they go on the internet. There is no spam, nor do we inject annoying pop-up messages, it is truly a free Internet surfing experience.

For the last two years Portland has won the Intel-sponsored 'Best Places To Use Free Wi-Fi' award, and that has been mainly due to the efforts of PTP. We are a wholly unpaid volunteer group who give up their free time to build and maintain the network for the benefit of Portland residents and visitors.

We hold monthly meetings and wireless hacking nights to teach people how to build and run the equipment themselves. Our meetings are open to all and we

encourage anyone with an interest to attend and learn. We have members ranging from novices to wireless professionals so don't worry if you currently have zero wireless knowledge, we'll aim to change that. And best of all, we don't bite!

What advantage is there in being a free PTP node?

- You become part of an expanding network that has proven itself time and time again to drive traffic 'customers' to your location. Our popular node listing located on our main website <http://www.personaltelco.net> is the local de-facto guide to free Wi-Fi access in Portland.
- Being part of the expanding PTP network helps your business, helps the local community and helps keep the providers of costly Internet access in check.
- We get many opportunities to direct the media to our locations for interviews and it has proven to be beneficial to the businesses.
- And let's not forget that this technology is cool and sharing a little free Internet with friends, neighbors and customers is bound to generate good Portland karma!

What is involved and what is the cost of becoming a PTP node?

Let us assume you own a small restaurant or café, in which case the requirements are very simple as only a single Access Point is required.

Here are the steps:

- A. Contact PTP via Email at info@personaltelco.net informing us that you are interested in becoming a node. Please provide us your full name, location, type of business and whether you have existing Internet bandwidth at the location in question.
- B. A PTP Area Captain will respond and make initial contact. Please be patient as we have day jobs, families and existing PTP commitments.
- C. If you don't already have broadband Internet, then that is step one as it can take a while to get your service up and running. You must order DSL together with a rented DSL modem from a Wi-Fi friendly ISP (Internet Service Provider) as most ISP's specifically forbid the open sharing of your

circuit in their published AUP (Acceptable Usage Policy).

PTP recommends three local DSL vendors who support PTP and work very well with us, they are:

Easystreet Online Services
www.easystreet.com
503-646-8400

Integra Telecom
www.integratelecom.com
503-453-8777
(you will need to order your phone service with them to get DSL)

Spiretech
www.spiretech.com
502-222-3086

Next you need to purchase a Wi-Fi Access Point with a combined router. We have had very good success with the affordable models from Netgear.

We specifically recommend the Netgear model WGR614 which can be purchased from Fry's or online from the likes of Amazon for about \$60 plus

shipping.
[ed. There are other devices we have found for use in nodes, Linksys's **WET54GS5**, WAP54G, and even the WRT54G are often recommended by PTP installers. On the other end of the price/performance scale there are devices like the Metrix MarkII. When you are talking to a node owner try not to get too technical but let them know there are options that cover the price / performance scale. If you have any questions just ask us.]

We need some sturdy shelf space, large enough to hold a desktop PC case. We'll also need three free nearby power outlets to plug in the DSL modem, Wi-Fi Router and the Linux-based gateway computer we will donate to your node.

Once your DSL circuit is live and you have your Netgear WGR614 in hand, contact your PTP Captain and let him or her know you are ready to roll.

Please additionally Email your assigned Captain a logo of your business if you have one. We prefer .JPG format. We'll then incorporate that into the

splash page.

As each new person locates your new Wi-Fi node and connects, when they open a web browser they'll see your logo, our PTP logo and will be asked to read and accept our acceptable usage policy by hitting the accept button. Our AUP works to protect you and us by requiring that folk play nice on the Internet and don't spam or Email objectionable material using a PTP node.

We will arrange an installation time, typically after work. Our install volunteers often race directly from their day jobs to get you up and running, so a steady supply of free coffee and snacks is always much appreciated.

We'll configure the equipment, put PTP stickers on the door, add your node to our popular node listing and announce the new location to our many supporters online.

See, it really is that easy!

-NigelBallard

How To Connect

1. Set your [ESSID](http://www.personaltelco.net) to www.personaltelco.net
2. Come within range of one of the nodes listed on this page.
3. Open a web browser and try and go somewhere , you will be redirected to our web page.
4. Read the terms and conditions, if you accept them click "I Agree ... " to continue and get access.

Southwest

- Bar 71 -
SW 2nd and Ash
- City Club of Portland/O'Bryant Square-
SW 9th and Washington
- Coffee Plant -
SW Broadway and Washington
- Daily Double -
SW 20th and Morrison
- Moonlight Staffing at PGE Park -
SW 18th and Salmon
- Pioneer Courthouse Square Area -
SW 6th and Morrison
- Stumptown Coffee Roasters -
SW 3rd and Ash
- South Park Blocks -
SW Park and Market

Northwest

- Anna Bannanas -
NW 21st and Northup
- Backspace -
NW 5th and Couch
- Couch Park -
NW 19th and Glisan
- Ecotrust -
NW 10th and Johnson
- Old Town Pizza -
NW 2nd and Davis St

- Powell's Bookstore -
NW 10th and Burnside
- Powell's Tech Bookstore -
NW Park and Couch
- Urban Grind In The Perl
NW 14th and Kearney
- Vivace Coffee House -
NW 23rd and Pettygrove
- World Cup Coffee and Tea -
NW 18th and Glisan

Southeast

- The Basement Public House -
SE 12th and Taylor
- Crema Cafe and Bakery
SE 27th and Ankeny
- Hawthorne Hosteling International -
SE 31st and Hawthorne
- Portland Independent Media Center
SE 34th and Belmont
- Red Wing Coffee and Baking -
SE 6th and Market
- Rose and Raindrop -
SE Grand and Stark
- Subway Sandwich Restaurant -
SE 35th and Hawthorne
- Red and Black Cafe -
SE 21st and Division
- Stumptown Coffee Roasters-
SE 45th and Division
- Stumptown Coffee Roasters-
SE 34th and Belmont
- Ugly Mug Coffeehouse -
SE 13th and Nehalem

Northeast

- Cafe La Dolce Vita -
NE 12th and Alberta
- Cafe Uno -
NE 41st and Tillamook
- Costello's Travel Caffe -
NE 22nd and Broadway
- Goldrush Coffee Bar -
NE M L King Blvd and Russell

- Hollywood Library -
NE 41st and Tillamook
- Irving Park -
NE 7th and Fremont
- Rocky Butte -
NE Rocky Butte
- Urban Grind Coffeehouse -
NE 22nd and Oregon

North and Beyond

- Arbor Lodge Park -
N Dekum and Greeley
- Cedar Hills Crossing Shopping
3205 SW Cedar Hills Blvd.
- Dittos-
N Williams and Freemont
- FreshPot
N Mississippi and Shaver
- Muddy's Coffeehouse -
N Mississippi and Fremont
- The Crow Bar -
N Mississippi and Failing
- Northstar Coffeehouse -
N Interstate and Lombard

