



JANUARY 2010

ANTI-VIRUS PROGRAMS

Rogue anti-virus programs are becoming the most prevalent threat to users and have increased exponentially in 2009. Rogue AV programs are presented to individuals who are surfing the web and stumble across an infected web site. They are then presented with what appears to be a legitimate program, usually telling them they are infected and need to run a scan or download a program to protect their computer. The process of running the scan or downloading the "protection" is what allows the threat to take hold on the PC. In some cases, even clicking on a cancel button is enough to invite the rogue program onto the computer.

Current industry reports indicate that there are nearly 637,000 different rogue AV variants currently active on the Internet. You may recognize some of the names as:

- Antivirus XP 2008
- Privacy Center
- Security Control Center
- Antivirus System Pro

The best thing to do if you do see something like this is to not click on anything except the "X" in the upper right corner of the window to close the program popup. If that doesn't work, then you can try to stop Internet Explorer or other browser from running or even a complete reboot of the computer is the next safest step.

A legitimate anti-virus program will never display a message telling you that you need to download additional programs. While no anti-virus program is immune to these new threats, having a good one is essential to keeping your PC and personal information as safe as possible. That, along with knowing what to do if you stumble across a rouge program is the best way to keep yourself protected.

ATC Communications offers anti-virus protection through SecureIT. Options vary from anti-virus only protection without tech support to full blown anti-virus/spyware/firewall protection with 24/7 tech support. Call us for cost and further details. As always, our local tech support team is here from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm to help you decide what the best option for you is and answer any questions you may have. Call us at 866.222.7873 or 308.962.7873.

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DID YOU KNOW?

COLD WEATHER COOLANT TIPS—WINTER CAR TIPS

Do you know why anti-freeze is almost more important in the winter as it is in the summer? What many don't know is that if your car is low on anti-freeze then your heater may stop working. In winter anti-freeze keeps the water in your car from freezing, just like it keeps that same water from evaporating in the summertime. When a car engine is started; coolant and liquids are pumped around the engine to either warm it up or cool it down. Within all these liquids inside your car engine is water, and anti-freeze keeps this water from freezing in the winter and damaging parts within the car engine. Cold weather is brutal on your car and all of its moving parts, especially the passengers.

