



The City of Treasure Island, Florida
www.mytreasureisland.org

TI WiFi Guide

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 2, 2007

CONTACT: Jeff Jensen, Public Information Officer
727-547-4575 ext. 247
webmaster@mytreasureisland.org

What is WiFi?

WiFi stands for Wireless Fidelity and is a way to get Internet access without having to plug your computer into a connection. The term WiFi is a play on Hi Fi (shorthand for High Fidelity), which is what people used to call their record players back in the early days of stereo.

Where is WiFi available in Treasure Island?

WiFi is available as of December 29, 2006 in downtown Treasure Island, an area bordered by 108th Avenue to the north and the TI Community Center on the south. It is currently free for any users during this test period. Additional WiFi coverage areas will be added until the wireless network covers the entire city, sometime in mid-2007.

Will I need to have an account with the WiFi service provider?

Yes. You will be able to sign up with either Citi WiFi, Treasure Island's wireless service provider, or other service providers that have an agreement with Citi WiFi to offer service in the area. Your account will be similar to other service providers with an enhancement to better service short-term visitors to the area. Being able to sign up for an hour, a day, a week, a month or a longer provides greater flexibility to our residents and visitors of our city. The City of Treasure Island does not bill you for internet access.

How much will WiFi cost me?

WiFi service offers accounts with different speeds and varying usage time and those costs will vary depending on your needs. Currently, wireless internet service from Citi WiFi offers unlimited usage, always on, internet access plus five email accounts for \$24.99 per month with an annual contract. There are currently no activation or equipment fees. You can comparison shop prices on the Citi WiFi website: www.citiwifi.com.

How can I use WiFi?

You can use either a WiFi enabled device such as a laptop or Citi WiFi can provide a WiFi "modem" for users with a desktop computer. Most portable computers can add WiFi using an adapter that plugs into a PC card slot or USB port if they are not already WiFi ready. Citi WiFi will provide each annual account with a wireless bridge that will connect to the wireless network and to your computer or router.

How does wireless internet compare to other connections?

Connection speeds are comparable to Cable or DSL with the added benefit of mobility; you can take it outside on the patio or by the pool.

Will there be phone support if I have a problem?

Yes, there is a 24/7 free help line for technical support related to connectivity and access issues. While this is not a service of the city, there will be referral information available at 547-4575.

Can I keep my same e-mail address?

You can keep your email address and use it on the Citi WiFi service unless your existing service provider does not allow it. You can also use an email account through Yahoo, Google, MSN, AOL or any other email provider. Citi WiFi will provide annual account holders with up to five email accounts as well.

What happens if I have an older computer?

The age of the computer can affect its overall performance. However, as long as your computer has a wireless interface or a network interface card it will be able to work on the WiFi network.

Can I leave my house with my laptop and still get wireless service?

Absolutely! If you are a home subscriber with a WiFi modem, your notebook will have to be authenticated on the network.

How do I sign up for WiFi?

From a WiFi enabled device, when you open Internet Explorer or try to attach to the Citi WiFi wireless ID, you will automatically be redirected to the Treasure Island Home Page. You can sign up directly from there. If you have any questions or need assistance signing up for service please call 727-822-1630.

What if I am a visitor to Treasure Island and just want to find, say, restaurant listings or things to do?

When you open a browser, you will be redirected to the Treasure Island Home Page. From there you can get to all kinds of free information about the area.

Is WiFi the same as Bluetooth?

No. While both are wireless technology terms, Bluetooth and WiFi are different in several ways, and are not interoperable. WiFi technology boasts faster data transfer speeds and range, while Bluetooth requires less power and is therefore more prominent in small appliances, such as headsets for cellular phones.

Can the city help me configure my computer?

Sorry, everyone's computer is different and you are responsible for knowing how to configure your own equipment. The city cannot be responsible for any changes you make to your computer's settings.