

Which Country Is Online Most? It May Surprise You...

Your teenager or your grandmother may seem to be on the Internet 24 hours a day, but overall, Americans aren't the biggest Internet users. According to one study reported by Reuters, 68 percent of Canadians are regular Web surfers, making Canada the country with the highest proportion of Internet visitors. Canada is trailed by France and Britain (62 percent each), Germany (60 percent), and then by the United States, where only 36 percent go online on a regular basis.

Our neighbors to the north spend an average of 42 hours a month online, up from 40 hours in 2009. They look at an average of 147 videos a month. Approximately 51 percent of Canadians have Facebook accounts. The study offered no explanation for the preponderance of Canadians inhabiting cyberspace.

Canine Vocabulary: Beyond 'Bow-Wow'



Yeah, we all know you've got the smartest dog in the world. Fetch, boy, fetch! But scientists at Wofford College in South Carolina say they've trained a border collie to recognize the names of 1,022 objects and distinguish those names from orders to fetch them.

In one experiment, the researchers randomly combined objects with specific commands to test whether the pooch, named Chaser, would follow the right command with the right object. Chaser responded to each combination correctly right away, suggesting that she understands that nouns and commands have separate meanings.

Chaser also apparently understood the concept of categories.

She was taught that the word "toy" referred to all the 1,022 objects she was allowed to play with, while keeping the individual objects straight, and was able to add a third category like "ball" or "Frisbee" to the category-name combination.

Of course, no dog is as cute as yours . . .

Save Energy At Work

What's good for the environment can also benefit your organization's bottom line. Check out these common-sense suggestions for saving energy (and expenses) at work:

- ★ **Lights.** Turn them off when no one needs them, of course, and replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents (CFLs). Place stickers on light switches to remind people to save energy.
- ★ **Computers and appliances.** Electronic appliances still draw power when they're turned off. Plug them into power strips that allow you to completely cut the energy flow when you power them down.
- ★ **Heating and cooling.** During warm weather, adjust your office blinds to reflect the sun's heat away from your windows. Wear light, loose clothes so you don't need to run the air conditioner more than necessary. In the winter, keep shades closed to enclose warm air inside your workspace, and wear warmer, layered clothes to work.
- ★ **Water.** Check your faucets for drips, which can waste more water than you may imagine.
- ★ **Energy bills.** Audit your expenses regularly to see how much you've been able to reduce your energy costs.

April Events

April 1st	April Fools' Day
April 7th	Earth Day
April 24th	Easter
April 29th	Arbor Day



Do You Have A Question About Car Maintenance That You Want Answered?

We love to hear from all of our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question about anything related to your vehicle, feel free to give us a call at **979-885-4009**, email us at

info@riversidetire.com or visit us at **www.riversidetire.com**



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That's A LOT Of Sushi

Here's a fish story about one that didn't get away: Sushi vendors in Hong Kong bought a 754-pound bluefin tuna for \$396,000.

That's a record, breaking one set in 2001 for a fish that weighed a mere 445 pounds.

"It was an exceptionally large fish," said an official at the auction, "but we were all surprised by the price."



Don't Let Success Go To Your Head

The stories of college basketball coach John Wooden are legendary. One tale he told while being honored as an inaugural member of the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame says a lot about his perspective.

The morning after winning the first of 10 national college basketball championships, Wooden and his wife were waiting for a cab to take them to church. (It was Easter Sunday.) A pigeon flew overhead and dropped a load right on Wooden's head.

Wooden said to the audience, "And I think the Good Lord was letting me know, 'Don't get carried away.' I'll always remember that."

Hospital Hijinks

A receptionist at a busy hospital answered the phone late one evening. "General Hospital, how may I help you?"

The soft, quivering voice on the other end of the line reminded the receptionist of her grandmother. "I'm trying to find out the status of one of your patients. Can you help me?"

Something about the caller's voice aroused the receptionist's sympathies. "Well, it's against policy to give out information to anyone except family members, but I'll see what I can do. What's the patient's name?"

"Edna Smith, room 503."

She looked up the patient's file on her computer. "Oh, she's fine. Her blood pressure is good, her blood work came back normal, and her doctor has scheduled her to be discharged tomorrow."

"Oh, thank you!" the woman said. "That's wonderful news. I was so worried."

"You're very welcome," replied the receptionist. "Is Edna your daughter?"

"I'm Edna," said the woman. "No one tells me anything."

Take The Right Steps For Staircase Safety

When a clown falls down a flight of stairs as a gag, it's funny. In real life, though, falling down a staircase can be dangerous, even fatal. Here are some basic tips for preventing stairway accidents in your home:

- **Handrails.** Railings should extend the full length of the staircase, on both sides.
- **Lights.** The top and bottom of every stairway should be well lit, with light switches at both ends.
- **Rugs.** Don't leave loose rugs or carpets on the landings. Either fasten them securely to the floor so no one can trip, or get rid of them.
- **Steps.** Make sure they're not slippery. Put non-stick treads on each step.
- **Obstacles.** Keep stairs clear of books, toys, and anything else that might clutter the path.
- **Gates.** If you have small children living in or visiting your house, gates to prevent them from tumbling down the stairs are a must.
- **Packages.** Don't overload yourself when carrying items up and down the stairs. Be sure you can keep at least one hand on the rail as you ascend or descend.
- **The bottom step.** Paint the lowest step white, especially for stairs leading into dark basements. This will make seeing the final step easier.



Bacteria To The Rescue After The Gulf Oil Spill

Not much good news resulted from the massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010, but scientists now say that some bacteria appear to be eating up the methane produced by the disaster faster than expected.

In mid-June of 2010, scientists measured concentrations of methane (the primary ingredient in natural gas) that were almost 100,000 times normal levels in the gulf. But a "bloom" of oil-eating bacteria that also consumes the natural gases ethane and propane has since removed more than 200,000 metric tons of methane, returning concentrations to normal levels.

Scientists say the gulf's naturally occurring oil seeps and high methane concentrations have prompted the evolution of bacteria that find such pollution tasty, and that the microorganisms were apparently more effective than was previously believed.

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Congratulations To Our Client Of The Month!

Every month, we choose a very special client of the month. It's our way of acknowledging our great clients and saying thanks to those that support our business with referrals and repeat business.

This month's Client of the Month is

ALLEN WAINWRIGHT

Some Words Should Last Forever

One summer, two best friends took a long hiking journey through the mountains. Because they were constantly together, they naturally got on each other's nerves from time to time. On the second afternoon, they started bickering over which direction to take, and soon tempers flared.

Finally, Patrick knocked Peter to the ground. But instead of hitting back, Peter picked up a stick and wrote in the dirt: "Today my best friend hit me." Soon they both calmed down and continued walking.

The next day, the friends were rock climbing when Peter's harness broke, leaving him clinging to the side of a steep slope over a hundred-foot drop. With great effort, Patrick got him to safety. Back on solid ground an hour later, Peter took out a pocketknife and carved on the rock: "Today my best friend saved my life."

When people hurt you, it's best to let the injury blow away like words in the sand. But when someone helps you, preserve the memory so it will never fade.

The Value Of Words

Three children on the playground were bragging about their parents.

One little girl said, "My father is a songwriter. He writes a few words and calls it a song, and they pay him 500 dollars."

"Oh, yeah?" said a little boy. "My dad writes a lot of stories and calls it a book, and they pay him 1,000 bucks."

"That's nothing," said the third child. "My dad's a pastor. He scribbles a few words and calls it a sermon, and it takes six people to collect all the money!"

Cheap Food!

To make a meal that will stretch into infinity and beyond, you can create a simple pasta dish. Choose a pasta first, and there are many kinds from spaghetti through to the "chunky" ones such as rigatoni. If your family has an allergy to gluten then spaghetti made from corn is about one of the best types of pasta to use. Make a creamy sauce by melting butter, cooking a teaspoon of flour (use non-gluten if there are allergies) and then adding milk. Add cheese to just melting point and then your precooked and chopped up veggies such as mushrooms, broccoli or colorful bell peppers.

Do You Want To Win A Free Kitchen Cooking Gift Basket?

The first 10 people to call with the correct answer will be eligible to win. At the end of the month we'll draw one lucky name. That winner will receive a FREE Kitchen Cooking Gift Basket from us! Here is this month's trivia question: How many objects can the border collie named Chaser, distinguish and fetch?

(Hint: the answer is somewhere in this newsletter)

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a) 2009 | c) 1022 |
| b) 503 | d) 147 |

Call right now with your answer!

Last month's trivia challenge was, *What state did the sole winner of the July 2005 Mega Millions jackpot come from?* a) Massachusetts. Congratulations to last month's lucky winner!

INEZ GOMES

A Quick Solution

It was an elegant dinner party. The hostess had left nothing to chance. When the time came for the main course, the cook proudly carried the large roast out from the kitchen on a big silver tray. Unfortunately, the cook's foot slipped, and the roast went flying.

After making sure the cook was unhurt, the hostess looked at the roast lying on the floor. "Don't worry, ma'am," said the quick-thinking cook. "I'll just take that roast back into the kitchen and bring out the other one."



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- & Much More!



What's The Answer?

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Best Friend **The Answers To These And Many
More Questions Are Inside**

