ESTABLISHING YOUR COUNTY'S ONLINE PRESENCE

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LAUREN-COLBY LINDLEY EXTENSION INSTRUCTOR CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



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WHAT'S OUT THERE

Types of Digital Outreach

- Social Media
 - Pros: Easy, convenient, free
 - Cons: Needs constant attention, can be overwhelming

- E-mail Marketing
 - Pros: Easy, convenient, free and on-demand
 - Cons: Requires creativity and careful time management to avoid being ignored and redundant

- Websites
 - Pros: No limitations, great for webinars, online shopping and virtual tours
 - Cons: not free, timeconsuming, requires major upkeep

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WHY IS DIGITAL OUTREACH IMPORTANT?

- <u>http://www.internetlivestats.com/</u>
- Your purpose for digital marketing is to sell an experience and provide useful information
- The Digital Age has taken over
 - Farmer's Markets are now using mobile payment processing apps



MEETING THE NEEDS OF YOUR TARGET

- Who is your target audience?
- What do they want to know and see?
- Whatever you choose, make it work!
 - Set a goal
 - Reach out to those in your area
 - Request feedback
 - Keep it updated



SOCIAL MEDIA WHAT IS IT?

- Referred to as networks, channels or platforms
- Inexpensive (typically free)
- User friendly
- According to statistica.com, the number of social network users is expected to reach 2.5 billion by 2018.

- Approx. 75% of online adults use social networking (globally)
- Two way visual communication 52% of these adults use multiple social media platforms
 - 65% of American adults use social networking sites (Pew Research)
 - Multiple uses for different networks
 - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest

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• Each network can sync to another

SOCIAL MEDIA FACEBOOK

OVER 1.7 BILLION MONTHLY USERS

- Profiles (individual)
 - Friends
 - Approval required for users to see your content
- Primary Engagement Opportunities
 - Shares
 - Comments
 - Likes
 - Private Messages

- Pages (organizational)
 - Created from an existing profile
 - "Likes" & Reviews
 - Open to the public
 - Schedule posts
 - View insights (easy to track activity)
 - Multiple admins & editors (optional)
 - Can be used for paid advertisement



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SOCIAL MEDIA FACEBOOK

ALMOST 1.7 BILLION MONTHLY USERS

• The Lingo

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• Tag, share, like, comment, hashtag, trend, newsfeed

• What, When and How to Post

- Share information, graphics & receive feedback
- Post 5-10 times a week
- Celebrate holidays/related events
- Typical range from 40 to 250 characters
- 70% promoting your brand/product
- 20% shares
- 10% self-promotion

Your Page should include:

- Contact information
- Location or District
- Events (annual, seasonal, random, etc.)
- Graphics (pictures and videos)
- An informational description that includes the history and mission of your organization
- Make time to update your content (stationary event details, profile/cover photos, description, etc.)



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SOCIAL MEDIA TWITTER

- **OVER 1 BILLION ACTIVE USERS**
- Creators of the trending #hashtag
 - To trend means making a group of words searchable by using the #
- Live; real-time
- Direct messages & notifications
- Younger population

- Good source for consuming information
- Tweets are limited to 140 characters
- Approval can be required for users to view your content (public/private Option)

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SOCIAL MEDIA TWITTER

OVER 1 BILLION USERS

• The Lingo

• Mention (@), handle, retweet, like, comment, hashtag (#), trend, discover, newsfeed

• What, when and how to Post

- Share information, graphics, links (cross-promote other networks)
- People on twitter want to see change and what's new
- On-demand information







E-MAIL MARKETING

- MailChimp
 - Free e-mail account
 - Send 12,000 e-mails to 2,000 subscribers or less a year
 - Features include campaigns, templates, lists and groups, strategic e-mailing (scheduled), mobile friendly e-mails, option to link social media accounts, read receipts to know if client opens the e-mail



E-MAIL MARKETING

- Do not spam or send e-mails without permission
- Know what to send, how often to send and when to send
- Over 90% of consumers check their e-mail everyday
- Easy to navigate, on-demand & posts can be scheduled
- Links, newsletters and other important information can be sent



WEBSITES

- Know what content to publish
 - Resources, services, contact information, etc.
- Know your budget
- Research similar websites for ideas
 - Be careful not to mimic, but know what you want it to look like







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Premium Plans

Wix gives 100s of templates, unlimited pages & top grade hosting FREE Upgrade to Premium and get even more

	VIP First Priority Support	eCommerce Best for Small Business	Unlimited Entrepreneurs & Freelancers	Combo For Personal Use	Connect Domain Most Basic
BEST VALUE Yearly Savings Plans	\$ 24 , ⁹² /month \$39.99 Save 35%	\$ 16 58 /month £25.99 Save 35%	\$ 12 92 /month \$23.90 Save 45%	\$ 9 ,75 /month \$ 13.99 Save 30%	\$ 4 08 /month (i) This Plan Displays Wix Brand Ads
ODomain	1 Year Free	1 Year Free	1 Year Free	1 Year Free	
Ad Vouchers	\$300 Value	\$300 Value	\$300 Value		
+ Free Premium Apps	2 Premium Apps Free \$118 value	2 Premium Apps Free \$118 value	2 Premium Apps Free \$118 value		
₩ Special	VIP Support Line				
Pay per Month	0	0	Buy Now	0	0
Bigger Storage	20GB	20GB	10GB	3GB	500MB
Wider Bandwidth	UNLIMITED	10GB	UNLIMITED	2GB	1GB
Connect Your Domain	~	~	~	~	~
Google Analytics	 	~	~	~	~
Free Hosting	~	~	~	~	~

Choose your WordPress.com flavor

Discover what your website or blog can do with a powerful plan



WHAT TO POST:

- Regional/district information
- Safety awareness & crime prevention
- Emergency alerts & severe weather updates
- Construction updates & road closings
- Public service & board meeting announcements
- Promote local businesses & organizations



STARTING & EXPANDING A WEB-BASED PRESENCE

- Ask yourself these important questions:
 - What am I currently doing to successfully reach my audience?
 - What would be most beneficial?
 - What am I most comfortable with?
 - How much time and money do I have to spend on a sufficient online presence?
 - Is it feasible?



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