DON'T BE A ZOMBIE DRONE!

What is a Zombie Drone?

A Zombie Drone is defined as a hi-jacked computer that is being used anonymously as a soldier or 'drone' for malicious activity (e.g., distribute unwanted spam e-mails) by an unknown party.   These unknown individuals, also called spammers, search for un-patched computers connected to the Internet with the intent of identifying machines that are vulnerable to attack.

What is meant by the term, unpatched?

- **Virus protection is lacking or has not been updated.**

- **Spyware protection is lacking or has not been updated.**

- **Personal firewall is lacking or has not been updated.**

- **Current operating system updates and/or patches have not been installed.**

Once a computer system is hi-jacked, spyware can be downloaded to the vulnerable computer without the user's knowledge.   Spyware can be used for many malicious activities such as routing thousands of unwanted e-mails from your address to unknown recipients. It can even record your keystrokes, which could lead to the compromise of your personal information.

The best defense against becoming a Zombie Drone is to keep your computer UPDATED with the latest releases and patches for your operating system, virus protection, spyware protection, and personal firewall.   Most commercial software packages automatically notify a user when an update is available.   DON'T HESITATE AND CLICK *NOTIFY ME LATER*…YOU MAY BECOME A ZOMBIE DRONE!