Search Engine versus Browser
Discussion October 13, 2016

- There is much confusion between the term **Browser** and **Search Engine**.
  - Google is not a browser.
  - Microsoft Edge is not a search engine.
- A Browser is merely a computer program installed on your PC designed to display websites.
- Popular Browsers include:
  - Internet Explorer
  - Microsoft Edge
  - Firefox
  - Chrome (referred often as Google Chrome, adding to the confusion).
  - Safari (Apple's browser
  - Opera
- Originally, to perform a search, you needed to go to that specific search engine's home page.
  - Meaning you opened your browser and typed into the address bar: google.com, or yahoo.com for example.
  - Now within the search box of that page you entered your search terms.
- Today, every browser will allow you to search directly from the address bar (top box of every browser).
  - Meaning you can search by merely putting your search terms into the address bar.
  - However, when you do so, you use that browser's default search engine.
    - Microsoft Edge and Internet Explorer use Bing.
    - Chrome uses Google.
    - Each browser has its default, but that can be changed for most in Settings, or from the address bar, as in the case of Internet Explorer.
  - To change Microsoft Edge's default, you must first use the browser to go to the search engine's homepage.
    - Then in Settings that search engine will be an option.
  - Internet Explorer's address bar has a drop-down arrow at the right which has an ADD button to select different search engines.
    - Or use Internet Options to change between added search engines.
  - Chrome switches by opening Settings, then under the Search category, choosing the engine you wish to use in the "Omnibox" (meaning multifunction box), essentially the address box at the top.

Search Engine versus Browser
Discussion October 13, 2016

- Regardless of which search engine is the default for the address bar, you can go to any home page and use their specific search techniques.
- You can even set your home page to be that of a specific search engine, such as www.google.com or www.yahoo.com.
- To add to the confusion, often when you open your browser and it begins at a particular page (Comcast.net, centurylink.net, they will have a search box and usually say it is "powered by" Google, or Yahoo.
    - However, if you do a search from that box, and compare it to a search from the actual search engine's home page, the "hits" may be quite different.
    - These proprietary pages (Comcast, CenturyLink, etc. are influenced to some degree by their own marketing.
    - Just as the search engine's themselves may be similarly biased to the order in which they list hits.