

Free Wireless Internet - For Now - Near St. Paul Harbor

Wednesday, 21 December 2011

{audio}/images/stories/mp3/111221.emerald_island_wireless.mp3{/audio}

Brianna Gibbs/KMXT

In July, Eric Romero, owner of Coastline Computers of Alaska, won a bid from the Kodiak Harbormaster's office to install wireless internet in Kodiak's harbors. The service was supposed to be available in Saint Paul Harbor, downtown, in late July, but only just became available three weeks ago. While Romero said the process definitely took longer than he expected, the good news is the service is free, at least for now.

-- (Harbor WiFi 1 :05 "For now it's just ...there will be a charge.")

While the service was meant specifically for the harbor, Romero said it has been accessible from various buildings along Shelikof Street. He said people are more than welcome to use the service, which is called Emerald Island Wireless, and give him any feedback on how it works.

He said he expects to start charging for the service in the next few weeks.

-- (Harbor WiFi 2 :11 "We're thinking \$14.99 ...we'll go from there.")

Romero

said buildings along Shelikof are more than welcome to pay for continued use of the internet. He said he hopes to install another access point that will face away from the harbor, toward downtown, allowing various shops and bars to also use the wireless.

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