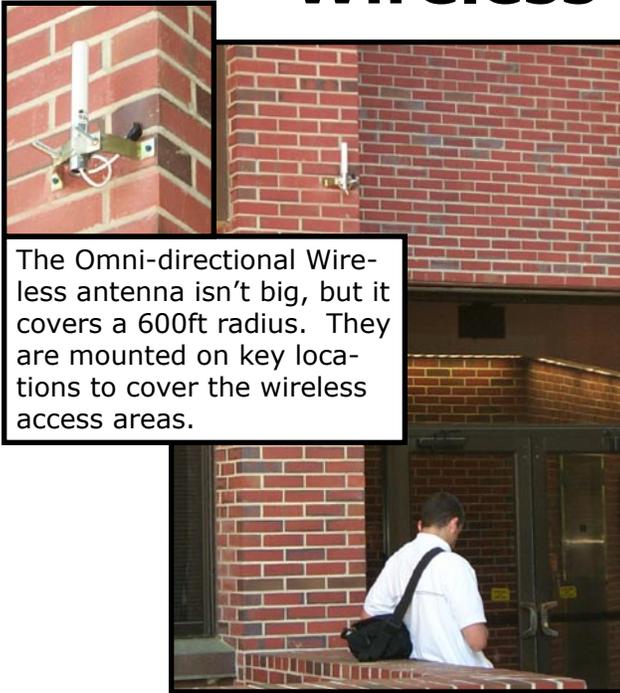




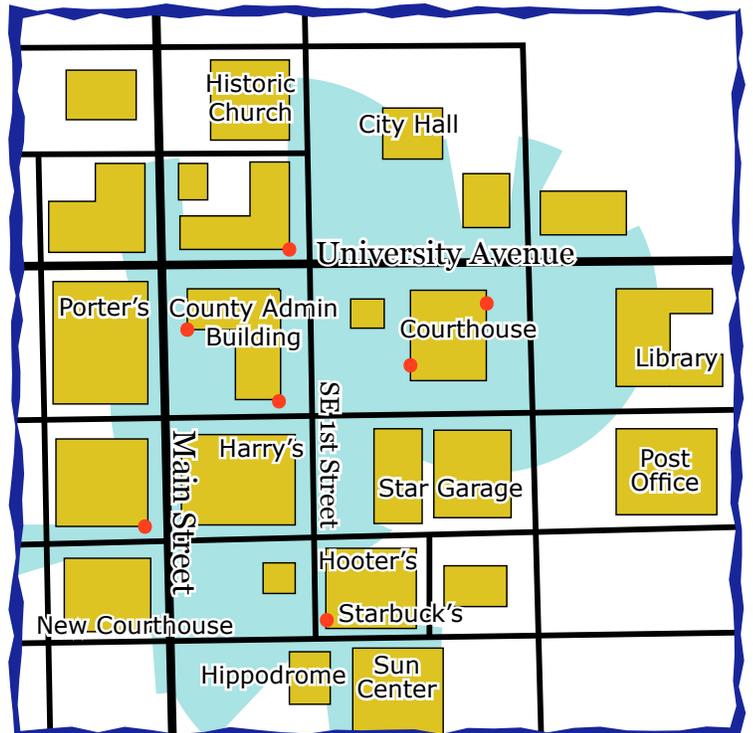
Welcome to our Wireless Downtown Community



The Omni-directional Wireless antenna isn't big, but it covers a 600ft radius. They are mounted on key locations to cover the wireless access areas.

Digital Downtown is a community-based initiative to demonstrate the possibilities of a digital wireless network in downtown Gainesville and the surrounding area.

Coverage Map



Our wireless coverage area extends through much of central downtown Gainesville, in areas frequented by shoppers, small businesses and the community.



This six month proof-of-concept is operating in the area of the Downtown Community Plaza, Courthouse, City Hall, downtown restaurants and main library. Any citizen or organization owning a PDA or laptop with a wireless card can easily use the Internet for free, allowing him/her access to e-mail, chat, browse the Web or listen to radio over the Internet while moving freely through the coverage area.

Anyone with a Laptop or PDA can use this service. A wireless network card, like this one, can connect and access the Internet. This gives users access to their e-mail and anything they normally have access to online.



A Connected Community

The project will endeavor to create a more open community and transform Downtown Gainesville, and ultimately the University of Florida and the City of Gainesville as a whole, into a more connected, networked community that is in touch with itself and the world.



Billy Martinez, Jr. tries out the wireless system outside of Starbucks.

Project Overview

Digital Downtown is a wireless 802.11b network, allowing a user to access the Internet from anywhere within the coverage area, and performing the same tasks that one might engage in plugged into the Internet from home or the office. Checking e-mail, doing research and chatting with co-workers become possible while sitting outside at area businesses for lunch or dinner, or a special event in the Downtown Community Plaza.

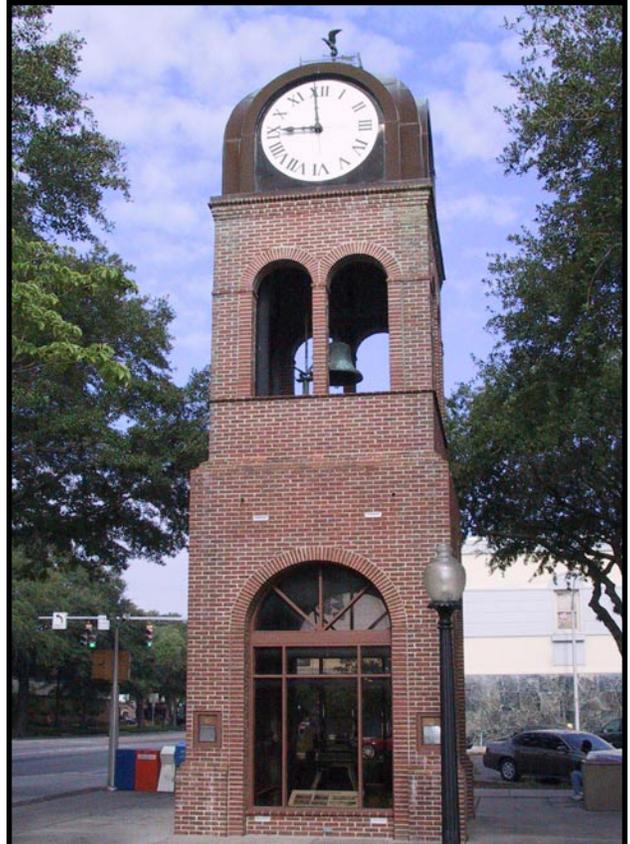
This proof-of-concept, which started in April 22nd of 2003, will run for six months, during which time access will be free of charge and relatively unrestricted. Anyone who wants to use it may, as long as they have purchased the appropriate wireless hardware for use with **Digital Downtown**.

Internet services, network hardware, technical support and design support for the project will be donated free of charge by the Community Partners for the six month pilot. Medical Manager Health Systems, a WebMD Company, sponsored the project.

Community Partners

Digital Downtown would not be possible without the vision, commitment and cooperation of a diverse partnership. This includes:

- **Medical Manager Health Systems**, sponsoring the project.
- **University of Florida**, providing Internet access and technical support.
- **Cisco Systems**, providing technical engineering services and hardware.
- **Alachua County Board of County Commissioners**, providing technical support.



The Alachua County Clock Tower sits amidst free downtown wireless Internet access.