

## Why SpamEater?

Along with the greater use of the internet over the last couple of years, an unfortunate result is the proliferation of what we've come to know as *spammers*. Like postal junk mail, the mail from these spammers invades your email box. The volume of spam (email from spammers) is frequently **much** higher than postal junk mail has ever been.

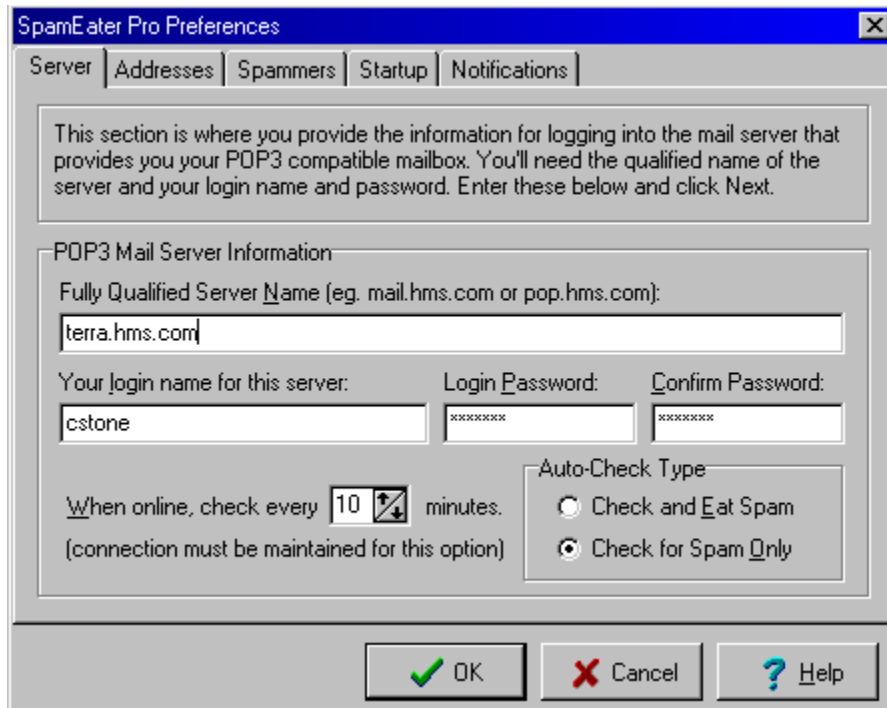
**SpamEater** was written out of frustration. I found that I was getting +100 email messages daily, of which the vast majority were spam. I was getting tired of downloading them and sifting through them in my inbox and hitting the delete button. I'd tried using the *remove* instruction found in many of them, but found that all that did was confirm my email address as valid and get myself on even more spammers email lists! Trying some other tools that generated email messages to *postmaster@domain.com* was also found to be ineffective in the majority of cases, and generated more bounced messages than it solved since most spammers anymore use false header information in their messages and bogus domains.

## What does SpamEater do?

**SpamEater** will connect with your ISP's (Internet Service Provider) mail server (via POP3) and check each email message found there - prior to your downloading with your email client program (such as Eudora, Inbox, Exchange, Outlook Express, etc). It compares the information in the message with your valid email addresses (since most spammers, it seems use the TO field of the message as something other than your address), and against an extensive listing of known spammers (currently nearly 5,000 are included with **SpamEater**). If the message is found not to be to one of your valid addresses (which you define), or if a match is found against the list of known spammers, then the message is deleted from the mail server. You can then connect with the mail server using your email client program and download only those cleared messages. *All spam will be gone!*

## SpamEater Pro and Standard Configuration

Setting up **SpamEater** is simple. The first time you run **SpamEater**, choose the *File | Preferences* option from the menu to bring up the Preferences dialog box. This is a standard tabbed dialog box where you can configure SpamEater with the options you desire. Please note: All screens shown here are for the **Pro** version, so if you are running the Standard freeware version, you may not see all of the options shown here on your screen.

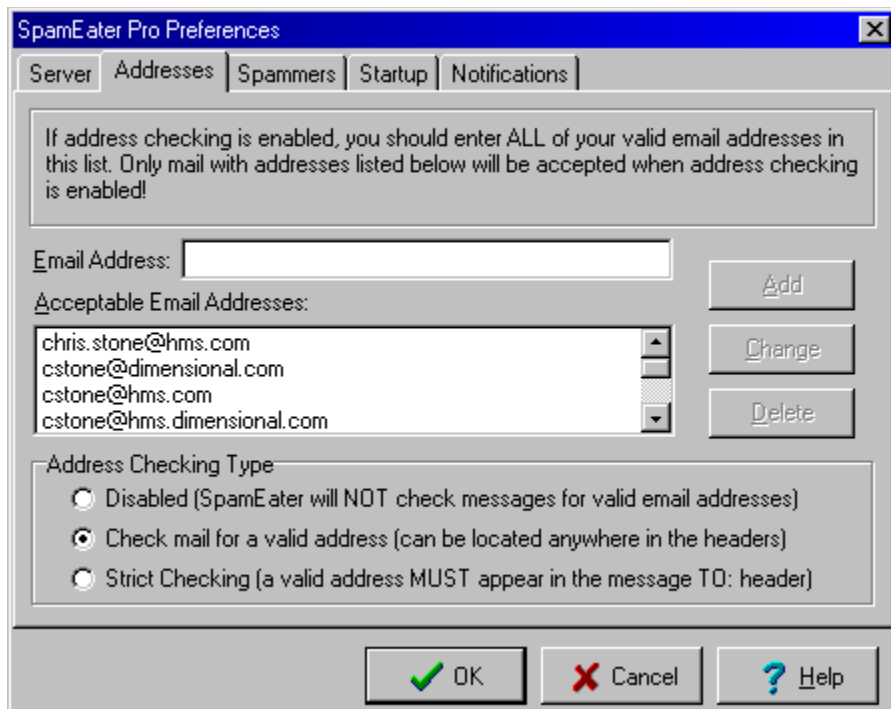


The screenshot shows the 'SpamEater Pro Preferences' dialog box with the 'Server' tab selected. The dialog has four tabs: 'Server', 'Addresses', 'Spammers', and 'Notifications'. The 'Server' tab contains the following fields and options:

- A text box for 'Fully Qualified Server Name (eg. mail.hms.com or pop.hms.com):' containing 'terra.hms.com'.
- Three text boxes for 'Your login name for this server:', 'Login Password:', and 'Confirm Password:'. The login name is 'cstone', and the passwords are masked with '\*\*\*\*\*'.
- A spin box for 'When online, check every' set to '10' minutes, with a note '(connection must be maintained for this option)'.
- An 'Auto-Check Type' section with two radio buttons: 'Check and Eat Spam' (unselected) and 'Check for Spam Only' (selected).
- Buttons for 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' at the bottom.

This is where you enter the name of the mail server you connect with to receive your email, and your login information. The mail server name must be the fully qualified name of the server that run the POP3 mail service. Typically this will be something like *pop.domain.com*, or *mail.domain.com*. Enter the server name, the username you use to login, and your password.

You can have SpamEater automatically check your mailbox at specific intervals if desired. Set the number of minutes between checks (1-99), and then choose whether you want to check only (logging of mail found will be done), or to check and eat any spam found. Set the number of minutes to 0 to disable this option. If disabled, checking will only be done when you manually initiate it.

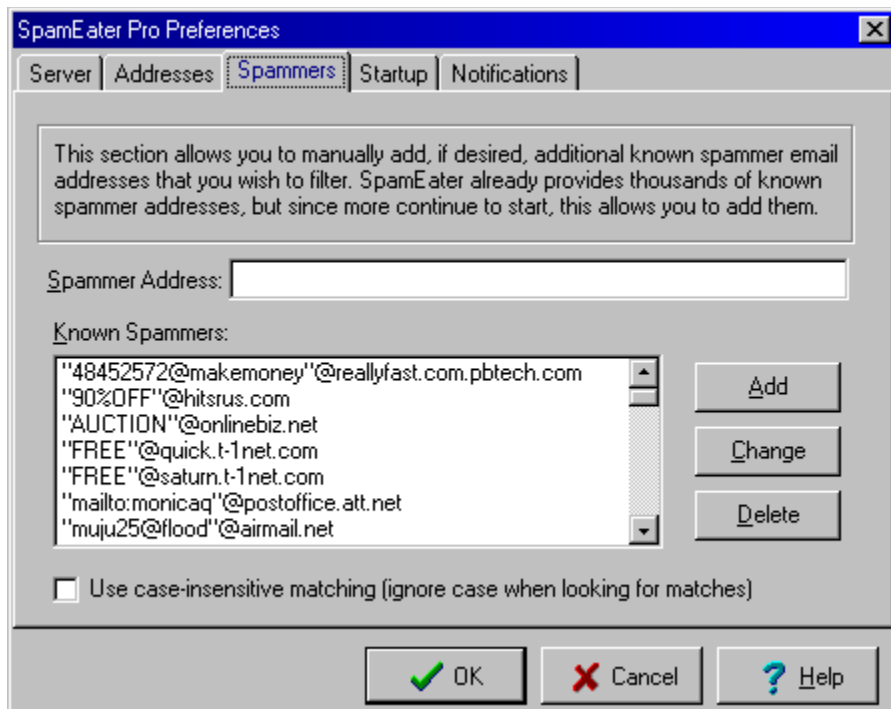


This is where you define all of your valid email addresses. **Note: If you want SpamEater to check for valid email addresses then you MUST define ALL of your valid addresses here! If you do not, then you run the probable risk of losing valid mail!** All mail will be first scanned for a match against these addresses. If a message is not to any of these addresses, it will be assumed to be spam and deleted from the server.

Enter an address in the upper text box and press the Add button. To edit an address, just select it in the list box, it will then appear in the text box where you can make your changes, and then press the update button to save the change. To delete an address, just select it in the list box and click on the Delete button.

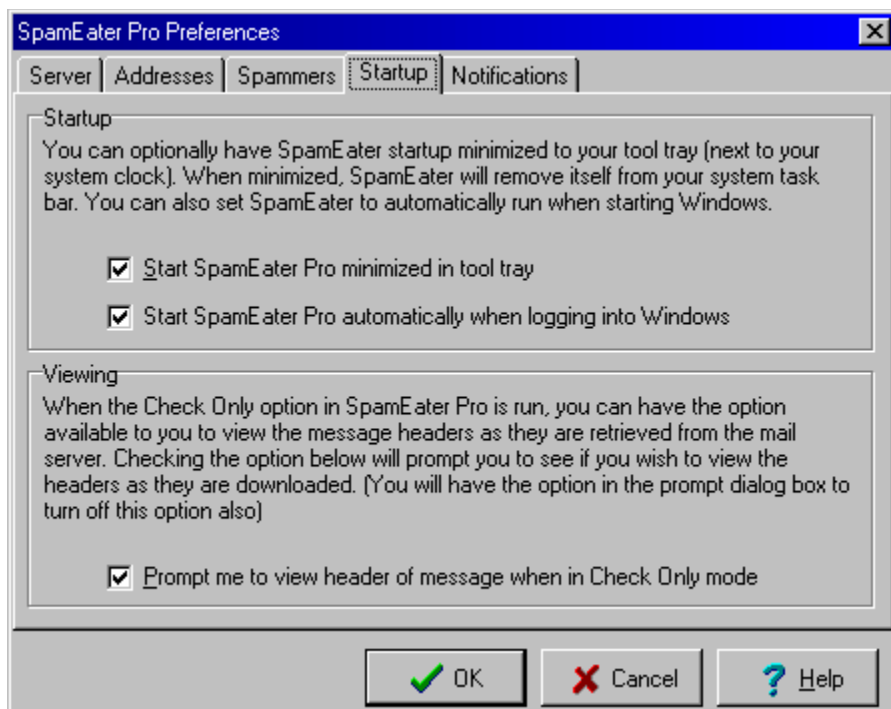
**Address Checking Type:** You have three options when it comes to having SpamEater check for valid email addresses in incoming mail:

- Disabled - no checking for valid email addresses will be done. For a message to be rejected and eaten, it will have to contain a match against the known spammers list.
- Check Mail For Valid Address - this option will approve messages if they are found to contain one of your configured addresses *anywhere* in the message headers.
- Strict Checking - with this option, SpamEater will scan your messages for your configured address, and one of them *must* be located in the message's TO: header line to be approved.



This is where the list of known spammers is defined. **SpamEater** comes preloaded with nearly 4,000 known spammers. Using the same methods for editing, adding, deleting as with your valid addresses above, you can edit, add, and delete from this listing also. These are the search strings that SpamEater will look for in messages in your mailbox. Any message containing any of these text strings will immediately be rejected. You do not need to enter complete addresses - partial addresses are quite acceptable.

By default, all scanning for spammer matches is case sensitive. You can, using the option at the bottom of the window, tell SpamEater to use case insensitive searches. While this help to keep the size of your spammer file down (not having to duplicate entries just due to changes in case), the trade off is in processing time that is required to convert everything prior to looking for a match. Test have found that it more efficient to include more entries into the spammers list rather than to toggle on case insensitive searching. However, the option is available for those that wish to use it.

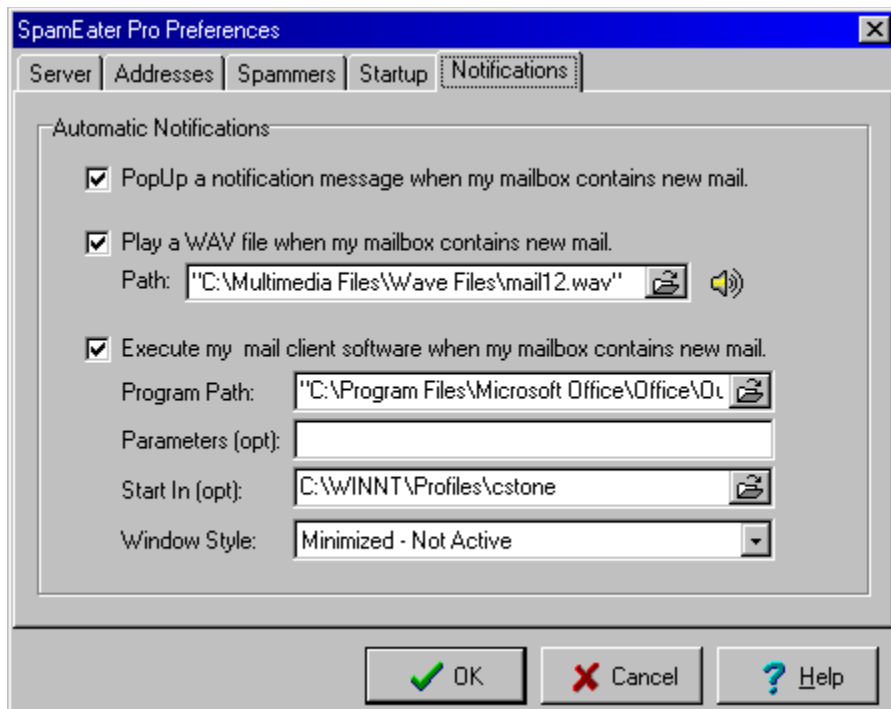


If the *Start SpamEater Pro minimized in tool tray* option is enabled (checked), then when you run SpamEater, it will automatically minimize itself to your tool tray (next to your clock) and remove itself from the task bar. You can double click the tool tray icon to restore the main window, or you can single click (or right click) the icon to display a menu of the SpamEater functions.

The *Start SpamEater Pro automatically when logging into Windows* will automatically run SpamEater when you log into Windows. If you enable this option and the one explained above, then you can have SpamEater start automatically and minimized into your system tool tray. This in conjunction with the automatic checking feature and the notification features allows for virtually *hands-free* processing!

The *Check for spam on SpamEater startup* option will have SpamEater check your mailbox for spam using the Auto Check setting on the Server tab whenever your first run SpamEater Pro.

SpamEater Pro supports interactive checking of messages. Checking the *Prompt me to view header of message when in Check Only mode* will display a prompt when you tell SpamEater to Check Only for spam that will allow you to view the headers of all messages, view summaries of the messages (To, From, Subject), and selectively delete messages, and add spammers to the known spammers list. [Click here for more information on this feature.](#)



SpamEater Pro will also notify you when there is new (and optionally cleaned) mail waiting in your mailbox. You can have it popup a messages, and/or play a wav file, and/or start your email client software for you (with normal, maximized, minimized or minimized and inactive startup). When configuring your email client software, the Parameters and Start In fields are optional. The notification portion of SpamEater uses smart notifications. You will only be notified once for your messages. You would only again be notified when the number of messages waiting in your mailbox changes. For example, if you have 4 messages on a run, then SpamEater would notify you. Then, the next run there were still 4 messages, you would not receive notification again. But, if the next run showed 5 messages, another notification would be sent.

## Running SpamEater



The main window for **SpamEater** is shown above. To run, first make sure you are connected to the internet, and then you can choose one of two options to check the mail on the server. They are both located under the Actions menu option and through the two buttons as shown above. They are:

- **Check and Eat Spam:** This will check your mailbox on the server for spam, and delete any messages found to be from spammers. If you have prompting to view headers enabled in your preferences, then you will be prompted to view the headers where you can agree, decline viewing headers, or cancel the check. [See the section on Interactive Checking for more information on viewing headers.](#)
- **Check Only for Spam:** This will only check your mailbox in the server for spam. *No messages will be deleted from the server with this option.* This should be used mainly for testing purposes. *If you want SpamEater to actually delete messages that are detected as spam, then you must choose the **Check and Eat Spam** option as noted above.*

All actions taken are logged to the file *Spammers.Log* in your **SpamEater** directory/folder. You can use the View Logfile option on the Actions menu to see what actions have been taken. To increase the amount of information logged, click on the *Verbose Logging* option on the Actions menu. When checked, additional information is logged to help debug problems and to see more of what is occurring during normal operations. (This file can grow to a large size quickly and the increased logging requires additional processing time and resources, so it's best to only use verbose logging if you are experiencing difficulties, or fine tuning your configuration. Normal operation should be with verbose logging off.)

Retrieving your email and using **SpamEater** is a simple two step process. First, run **SpamEater** and choose the *Check and Eat Spam* option from the Actions menu to clean your mailbox. Then run your email client program and retrieve your email (now cleaned from spammers) as normal. If you find that you are still getting some mail from spammers, then it's probably due to that spammer not being listed in the known spammers list. You can add them at any time using the [Preferences](#) dialog box. Just run it and add their email addresses to the list of known spammers.



## SpamEater License

You should carefully read the following terms and conditions before using this software. Your use of this software indicates your acceptance, in total, of this license agreement.

**SpamEater - Standard** is released as FreeWare for non-commercial use. You may freely distribute SpamEater, provided that ALL distribution is only in the original package as released by High Mountain Software.

**SpamEater Pro** is released as ShareWare. You may evaluate it at no charge for a period not to exceed 30 days. At the end of this period, you must either register it, or remove it from your system. You are free to use **SpamEater - Standard** at no charge for as long as you wish.

### Governing Law

This agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Colorado.

### Disclaimer of Warranty

THIS SOFTWARE AND THE ACCOMPANYING FILES ARE RELEASED "AS IS" AND WITHOUT WARRANTIES AS TO PERFORMANCE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR ANY OTHER WARRANTIES WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS OFFERED.

Good data processing procedure dictates that any program be thoroughly tested with non-critical data before relying on it. The user must assume the entire risk of using the program. ANY LIABILITY OF THE SELLER WILL BE LIMITED EXCLUSIVELY TO PRODUCT REPLACEMENT OR REFUND OF PURCHASE PRICE.

Your license in no way implies ownership of the software. Ownership remains entirely with High Mountain Software. Purchase is limited to licenses to use the software.

## SpamEater Support

**SpamEater** support is provided via our web site, ftp, and email. Any updates to **SpamEater** will be posted on the web site and ftp site as they are made available.

Our web site is located at <http://www.hms.com>

Our ftp site is located at <ftp://ftp.hms.com> and our shareware/freeware applications are located in the */pub/apps* directory.

If you have any problems running **SpamEater** or have any suggestions for improvements, please send email to [support@hms.com](mailto:support@hms.com). Your comments and suggestions are welcome!

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## What's New?

### 06 September 1998 - Version 2.20:

- Updated ftp update feature and help file links to reflect changes required by the move of our internet domain to new servers.
- Added the ability to now update the spammers list with local text files as well as through the automated ftp updating (ftp updating feature only active in the Pro version).

### 16 August 1998 - Version 2.12:

- *Finally* resolved the problems some people were having with the registration system expiring their evaluations prior to 30 days. This will require that all currently registered users contact support@hms.com for a new key, prior to upgrading to this release. You should automatically receive one in your email, but if not, then please send email to support@hms.com and include your current serial number and pass phrase key.
- Optimized the code in a number of areas. Result: faster processing, more efficient memory utilization and better cpu utilization thereby freeing cycles for other processes.

### 13 July 1998 - Version 1.85:

- Removed splash screen to speed the loading of SpamEater and to reduce the file size (user requested)
- In the preferences dialog box, you can now use hot keys to move from tab to tab. Pressing CTRL-PGDN will move to the next tab, and pressing CTRL-PGUP will move to the previous tab. (user requested)
- Double clicking the tray icon now restores the taskbar button. (user requested)
- Passwords are now encrypted (if you are upgrading, you'll need to be sure to re-enter your password for your POP3 server. Otherwise you'll get an authentication failure when you try to connect and check the messages in your mailbox).
- Fixed problems with the minimize on start (Pro version) and some bugs in the minimizing to the system tray and redisplaying of the main SpamEater screen.
- When redisplaying the main screen (via the tray icon's popup menu, or dbl clicking the tray icon), it is now brought to the foreground, in front of all other windows.
- You can now configure SpamEater Pro to automatically check your messages when it first starts. (user requested)
- Added listing of [INI file entries](#) to Help file (user requested)

**13 June 1998 - Version 1.80:** There has been a lot of interest in SpamEater with the last release! We've received many great comments, reviews and suggestions for enhancements! Many of which are included in this new release as detailed below. Thanks to everyone for your interest!

- Fixed some minor problems with minimizing to the system tray, and removing from the task bar.
- The SpamEater icon in the tray is now animated when checking mailbox.
- Removed the *Show Splash Screen* option from the menus and freed memory used by the splash screen shown on startup. This was done to reduce the memory requirements of SpamEater.
- Reduced splash screen display time to 2 seconds to speed startup.
- The Action menu items *Check only for Spam* and *Check and Eat Spam* now show a dot beside the currently active item when processing to show which type of checking is being done.
- Buttons added to main window to access the *Check only* and *Check and Eat* functions without having to use the menu.
- Updates to the spammers listing will now be done and these updates will be made available on the web site for download. [Click here for more details on this.](#)
- The *Acceptable Email Addresses* and *Known Spammers* list boxes are now sorted to more easily find a particular entry.
- Increased timeout period for connecting to server from 15 to 60 seconds
- Added option for **Strict To:** header line matching on valid email addresses. This means that your defined valid addresses *must* be included on the message's To: header line to be considered a good message. **USE CAUTION WITH THIS OPTION!** Many mailing lists do not include your address on the

To: header line. If you enable this option, then you risk the deletion of these otherwise valid (non-spam) email messages!

- If SpamEater is already running and an attempt is made to run it again, then the originally running instance is restored (if minimized) and brought to the front.

Created [SpamEater Pro](#), which adds additional functionality to SpamEater - Standard. The Pro version currently contains the following enhancement over the freeware Standard version:

- Automatic checking of mailbox at user specified intervals of between 1 and 99 minutes. The checking mode can be in either of both supported modes.
- Automated download and installing/merging of spammer list updates.
- Optional viewing of message headers when checking mailbox interactively.
- Optional automatic minimizing of SpamEater to your tooltray when first running.
- In the new header viewing window, you can choose to delete any given message from the mail server, and you can also highlight any text in the viewing window and have it added to your spammers list with full dupe checking.
- You can now setup SpamEater to run automatically when starting Windows. If you select this option as well as the minimize on run option, then whenever you start Windows, SpamEater will startup and minimize itself to your tooltray.
- SpamEater can now be configured to popup a message, play a wave file, and/or start your mail client software when cleaned mail is waiting in your mailbox.

**24 May 1998 - Version 1.50:** Due to it's size, and apparent bugs, the ActiveX controls (POP3CT.OCX) has been eliminated. The POP3 protocol is now entirely within the SpamEater application. This has resulted in a *much* smaller application.

SpamEater now *only* downloads the headers for messages, where in previous versions, the entire message was downloaded prior to checking. This will save a tremendous amount of time in the spam checking process! As before, the headers are extensively checked for valid user addresses and spammer information. What this now means also, is that your POP3 mail server *must* support the POP3 protocol command TOP. This should not be a problem, as most POP3 mail servers fully support this common extension of the standard POP3 protocol.

Added support for verbose or terse logging levels. To set verbose logging, check the *Verbose Logging* menu item on the *Actions* menu. In addition to the normal logging (showing spams found and who they are reportedly from), all transactional protocol information will also be logged. While this is good for debugging purposes, it can lead to very large log files. Note that passwords are not logged, but rather they are logged as *secret*.

New option added for the checking of valid TO addresses in messages. If the *Eat (Delete) messages to addresses not listed above* option is not selected, then messages will **not** be checked for valid TO addresses. Use caution when selecting this option, as many mailing lists do **not** necessarily put your address in the headers of list messages. If this option is enabled, then you may loose messages from these types of mailing lists.

**8 December 1997 - Version 1.01:** Added tray icon support. When SpamEater is minimized, it will be removed from the system task bar and an icon will be placed in the system tool tray. Click on the icon to display a popup menu. From the menu, you can restore [SpamEater's main display window](#), start the [Setup Assistant](#), view the SpamEater log file, and display the About Box.

## SpamEater Pro

With the release of SpamEater v1.80 comes SpamEater Pro! SpamEater - Standard is, and always will remain, a *Freeware* product. The Pro version adds additional functionality to SpamEater - Standard.

### **Additional features of SpamEater Pro:**

- Automatic checking of mailbox at specific intervals
- Automated downloading and updating of updates to the spammers list
- Ability to minimize SpamEater to the system tray when run
- Interactive mode to view message headers and selectively choose disposition
- Popup a message, play a wav file, and/or start your mail client software when new cleaned mail is in your mailbox.
- Start automatically when logging into Windows
- A *hands-free* email solution!
- Check for spam on SpamEater startup

### **Plans for additional functionality planned for the Pro version only include:**

- Support for multiple POP3 mailboxes
- Your ideas?

### **How to get a 30 day evaluation copy of SpamEater Pro:**

You can probably download a copy of SpamEater Pro at the same place that you picked up your copy of SpamEater - Standard, or you may have it already (This help file is shipped with both versions of SpamEater). Some known sites that have SpamEater (both versions) available are:

<http://www.bhs.com>

<http://www.tucows.com> and <http://www.winfiles.com>

You can also get the latest versions of both versions from our web site at

<http://www.hms.com/spameater.htm>, or our ftp site at <ftp://ftp.hms.com> and go to the /pub/apps directory.

## Spammers List Updates

Can you update the list of spammers, other than just typing in manually new entries using the setup wizard? Absolutely! Following are the update instruction for both the Standard and [Pro](#) versions of SpamEater (*automatic ftp updating requires the Pro version*):

### Update from local text file:

- Create a file by simply running Notepad and entering, one per line, the spammer addresses and/or text you wish to search for and filter in the email message headers. You can use any file as long as it is a text file (and ends with the extension TXT) and it contains one text string or address per line, with each line ending with a carriage-return line-feed combination.
- Save the file to your hard drive using any filename you wish and the extension .TXT (for example: spamupd.txt).
- Run SpamEater
- Choose **File | Spammers List Update** from the menu (if you are running it minimized, then click on the icon in your tooltray and choose **Spammers List Update** from the popup menu)
- Make sure **Local Text File** option in **Update From** is selected and enter the path and filename to the file from above. (You can click the folder button to browse for the file).
- Click on the **Start** button.
- **That's it!** SpamEater Pro will then merge the entries from the update file into your current spammers list, ignoring any duplicate entries. The new updated list becomes effective immediately!

### Updating via ftp file download (*Requires SpamEater Pro*):

- Run SpamEater Pro if you don't have it already running
- Choose **File | Spammers List Update** from the menu (if you are running it minimized, then click on the icon in your tooltray and choose **Spammers List Update** from the popup menu)
- Make sure you are connected to the internet
- Click on the **Start** button (you will be asked to confirm that you are connected to the internet)
- **That's it!** SpamEater Pro will then connect to our ftp site, check for an update and if found, will automatically download the update and merge the entries from the update into your current spammers list. The new updated list becomes effective immediately!

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Will SpamEater (Pro or Standard) ever support multiple POP3 mailboxes?

Yes, SpamEater Pro v2.5 (now in development), will fully support multiple POP3 mailboxes. This capability will not be included in the freeware SpamEater Standard release.

### Does SpamEater Pro or Standard support AOL (American Online)?

No. SpamEater (both releases) requires the use of the standard TCP/IP POP3 protocol, and further, that the mail server supports the standard POP3 protocol command TOP. These are industry standards that are used by the majority of mail servers on the internet. However, AOL does not support this protocol (along with the SMTP protocol) for it's users to send and receive email. Therefore, SpamEater cannot work with AOL accounts at this time.

### How long can I use the Standard version of SpamEater without registering?

*Forever!* SpamEater - Standard is *freeware* and will remain so. You are under no obligation to ever register it or upgrade to the Pro version. We do hope that you will like it enough to want the enhanced functionality of the Pro version, and therefore upgrade to it, but you are under no obligation to do so. Enjoy and help rid the world of Spam!

### What does it cost to register SpamEater Pro?

The current shareware registration fee for SpamEater Pro, as of 1 August 1998, is \$20.00 US dollars. If you are paying with foreign currency, then it is adjusted for the current exchange rates. Note: If you are paying with anything other than US dollars, you must use the [Kagi](#) or [GetSoftware](#) services for registration processing.

### If I register SpamEater Pro, what are the upgrade policies?

Registering the Pro version of SpamEater entitles you to all forthcoming upgrades at no charge. When a new version is released, all you have to do is to download and install the new version. Your registration information for the previous version will be recognized and accepted by the new version.

### How can I register SpamEater Pro, and can I register online with my credit card?

Currently, High Mountain Software uses the Kagi and the GetSoftware services for the processing of our online registrations. You can register online using all major credit cards and with First Virtual! Typically, when registering online, you will have your registration within 2 to 3 days.

To register online through Kagi via the World Wide Web, just point your web browser to <http://order.kagi.com/?3VH> (or click the link).

To register online through GetSoftware via the World Wide Web, just point your web browser to <http://www.getsoftware.com/cgi/info.gsc?productid=368> (or click the link).

To register through Kagi using email or direct to High Mountain Software via snail-mail (checks or money orders only on direct orders), just follow these simple steps:

- Run SpamEater Pro
- Click **Help | About** on the main menu
- Click the **Register** button on the About window
- Click the **Order** button on the next dialog box. This will run the Register program where you enter your payment information. Choose the appropriate options for the payment method you desire. Press F1 in



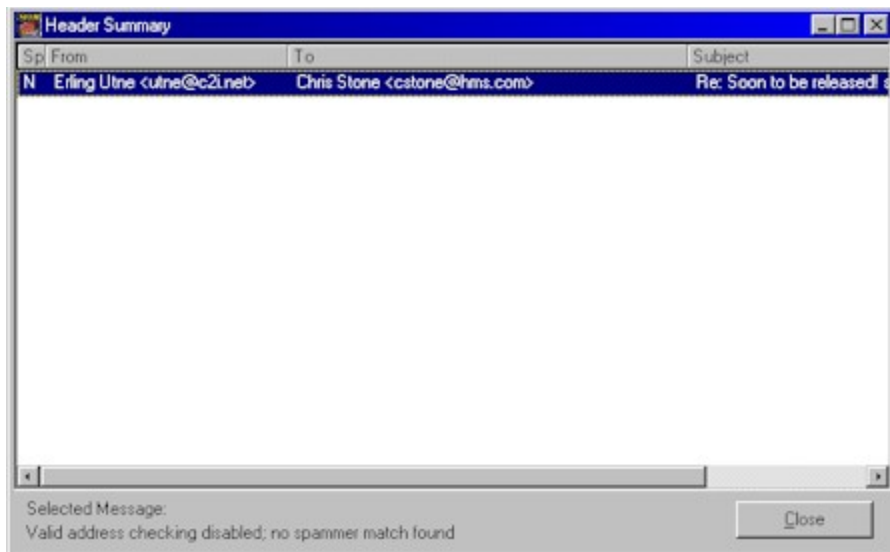
the Register program for more help.

We are also working on getting things setup with a couple of other online processing system. Again, this new information will be posted on the web site as they become available.

## Interactive Checking

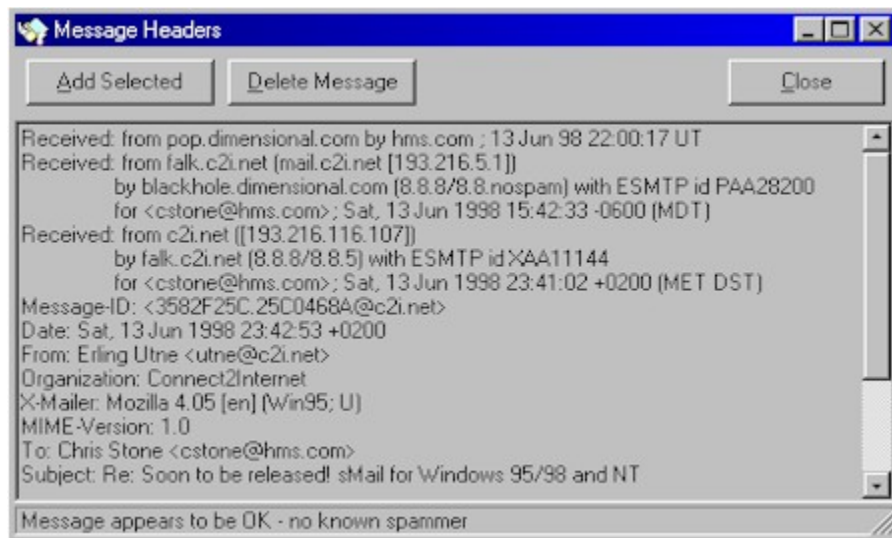
SpamEater Pro now allows you to interactively deal with your mail. To enable this option, just run the [Setup Assistant](#) and enable the *Prompt me to view headers....* option on the last setup screen. When enabled, and you tell SpamEater to Check Only for Spam, you will be prompted to view the message headers. If you select *Cancel* then the check will be aborted. Choosing *No* will run a standard non-interactive check only of your mailbox. Selecting *Yes* will proceed with the following process. (Note: the prompt box also has a checkbox to diable future prompting. If you select this, you will not be prompted the next time you tell SpamEater to Check Only for spam. To re-enable, you need to do so with the [Setup Assistant](#).

After selecting Yes, SpamEater will connect with your defined mail server and retrieve the headers for all of your messages. Once retrieved, you will be shown the following screen:



This windows shows the To:, From: and Subject: lines from the headers of all waiting messages. Clicking on a line will show you the checked status of the selected message at the bottom of the window. If you right-click on a line, you have the options of refreshing the display, deleting the message, and displaying the entire headers for the message. If you select delete, and the message contains valid addresses and is not from a known spammer, you will be prompted to confirm your desire to delete the message.

Selecting to display the headers for a message (or double-clicking on a line), will then popup the following window with the entire headers for the selected message:



Clicking the *Delete Message* button will remove the message from your mailbox on the server.

You can also select text in the window and then click on the *Add Selected* button to add the selected text to the Known Spammers list. You will be asked to confirm the addition and shown the text you have selected. Click Yes to add it, or No to abort the addition. When you close this window (by clicking the close button), and have made any additions, you will be asked if you wish to save the additions to the Known Spammers list.

## INI File Entries

While it is **not** recommended that you modify the following settings manually, the following information regarding the entries in the SpamEater.Ini file is provided by user request. You should run SpamEater and choose *File | Preferences* to make changes to your SpamEater configuration rather than modifying these entries manually.

### Listing conventions:

[Section] - start of new INI file section

**keyname=default\_value** - keyname (if preceded by a \*, then this key is valid in Pro version only) and it's possible values and default value listed

### SpamEater INI File Description/Listing:

[Config] ; main INI file section  
**Server=** ; POP3 server name to connect to (no default)  
**Login=** ; your login name to the POP3 server (no default)  
**Password=** ; your login password - encrypted - don't change here (no default)  
**LogLevel=0** ; 0 = standard logging, 1 = verbose logging  
**Unknown=0** ; 0 = don't eat unknown messages, 1 = eat unknown messages  
**\*AutoMins=0** ; minutes between automatic checking of mailbox on POP3 server  
**\*AutoType=0** ; type of autocheck - 0 = Check only, 1 = check and eat  
**\*ToolTray=1** ; automatically minimize to tooltray when SpamEater starts  
**\*Update=** ; date of the last auto-ftp spammers list update (no default)  
**\*Prompt=** ; prompt to view headers for interactive checking  
**Strict=0** ; strict To: check - valid address **MUST** be in header To: line  
**Startup=0** ; 0 = don't start SpamEater with Windows, 1 = do start SpamEater  
**\*Popup=0** ; 1 = popup message when new cleaned mail is waiting in mailbox  
**\*PlayWav=0** ; 1 = play wave file when new cleaned mail is waiting in mailbox  
**\*WAVFile=** ; path and filename of WAV file to play for notifications (no default)  
**\*StartClient=0** ; 1 = start email client when mail is waiting  
**\*ClientFile=** ; path and filename to client email software (no default)  
**\*ClientParams=** ; command line parameters for client email software (no default)  
**\*ClientFolder=** ; startup/working folder for client email software (no default)  
**\*ClientWin=0** ; 0 = normal, 1 = minimized, 2 = maximized, 3 = minimized, not active  
**NoCase=0** ; 0 = case insensitive checks, 1 = case sensitive checks  
**\*CheckOnStart=0** ; 0 = don't check mail on startup, 1 = do check mail on startup  
**Left=200** ; initial position on screen of left side of main SpamEater window  
**Top=200** ; initial position on screen of the top of the main SpamEater window  
**Width=422** ; initial width (in pixels) of main SpamEater window  
**Height=244** ; initial height (in pixels) of main SpamEater window

**PLEASE NOTE:** SpamEater has the power to delete messages on your mail server forever. Once they have been removed from the server, they are gone and cannot be retrieved.

Many mailing lists do *not* include your email address in the header TO: line. If you get lists of this nature, then you should never use the Strict address checking option! If you do, you will not get those messages from those lists.

Some lists have even been known to not include your address *anywhere* in the message headers. In this case, you should never use address checking at all.

However, that said, you do have one other option. That is to put the mailing list address in your valid addresses list. Then SpamEater will be able to validate the address, and will consider it to be a non-spammer message. You would then be able to get these messages with your mail client software.

The **BEST** thing to do when first starting to use SpamEater, or when making modifications to your settings, or your mailing list subscriptions, is to run SpamEater in *Check Only* mode (and, if using the [Pro](#) version) to view the message headers. See the section on [Interactive Checking](#) for more details on this feature.

