Using A Hosts File to Block Spyware Infected Hosts
A simple yet effective way of blocking spyware-infected servers is to add them to a host file. Creating a host file is straightforward. Open up a text editor and at the very top of the text file type:
127.0.0.1 Localhost
Now you can add the spyware-infected hosts underneath like this
127.0.0.1 iads.adroar.com
127.0.0.2 lists.adroar.com
127.0.0.3 advertisingvision.com
Once a good list of adware servers has been made, save the file as hosts (not hosts.txt just hosts). Place this file in the appropriate directory:
Windows XP
C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32\DRIVERS\ETC
Windows 2K
C:\WINNT\SYSTEM32\DRIVERS\ETC
Win 98\ME
C:\WINDOWS

When a computer tries to go to the malware-infected server, the hosts file will block it, instead of going to the intended server, the server address will point locally rendering the spyware useless (or blocking spyware from infecting the computer from a remote location). You can download an excellent hosts file here http://www.mvps.org/winhelp2002/hosts.txt it has a huge database of spyware, malware and parasitic servers and will become a valuable asset in any system admins arsenal of protection.

Spyware and security resources:
http://www.spywareinfo.com
http://www.coast-info.org/glossary.htm
http://www.intranetjournal.com/spyware/
http://www.anti-trojan.org/
http://forum.gladiator-antivirus.com

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