

Bill Oertell asked on

Q: Windows 10 Creators Update: Prevent creation of "System Volume Information"

In Windows 10 Anniversary Update I was able to prevent creation of the "System Volume Information" folder by editing GPEDIT and Services. In GPEDIT I set **Computer Configuration > Administrative Templates > Windows Components > Search > Do not allow locations on removable drives to be added to libraries** to Enabled. In **Services** I set **Windows Search** to Disabled. Combined, these two settings in Anniversary Update prevented creation of the "System Volume Information" folder on USB flash drives whenever I inserted one. This is not working in Creators Update. Since updating to it, even though these two settings are set as described, Windows still insists on creating this folder. This behavior is inconvenient at best, and extremely annoying and bothersome otherwise. Taking ownership and deleting this folder is not exactly a user-friendly process. USB drives normally don't need this folder, especially if they are being used to store music files for play in MP3 players or automotive sound systems. This is doubly true if the MP3 files are stored in folders by artist, as one then has a folder named "System Volume Information" that contains no music files. Is there any way to prevent creation of "System Volume Information" for USB flash drives in Windows 10 Creators Update?

DavidGoodenough replied on

A:

As a public service announcement, like many other I have found that the setting in GPEDIT.MSC: Computer Configuration / Administrative Settings / Windows Components / Search / Do not allow locations ... and the setting in the registry:

HKLM\Software\Policies\Microsoft\Windows\Windows

Search\DisableRemovableDriveIndexing have no effect whatsoever on this. Worse yet, by default GPEDIT.MSC is not available to Windows 10 Home users, and it takes a little bit of work to get it installed.

I also completely ignore the Microsoft party line that S.V.I. is an important folder and cannot be deleted. For my C: drive, and the other NTFS formatted hard drives in my computer this is indeed the case, and I would expect S.V.I. to remain on them and be correctly updated as I save restore points.

IT IS HOWEVER, COMPLETELY UNNECESSARY ON A USB DRIVE!

S.V.I. can and should be deleted from USB flash drives, it has no place on them.

There is a way to prevent its creation that appears to have no other adverse effects. Right click "Computer", select "Manage", double click "Services and Applications", then single click "Services".

In the right pane, scroll down and find "Storage Service". Right click, and select "Properties". If it is running, click the "Stop" button. Then in the dropdown labelled "Startup Type:" select "Disabled" This will prevent the unnecessary storage service from running, since it is responsible for creating S.V.I. on USB drives.

Did this solve your problem?

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Mary Sau replied on
Moderator

A:

You can use the built in Feedback app in Windows 10 to submit your findings to the developers.

Regards.

Did this solve your problem?

1 person was helped by this reply