

Using Seafile for Staff File Synchronization and Backup

Thad Schulz (tschulz@sebeka.k12.mn.us)

Sebeka Public Schools

Website: <https://wiki.sebeka.k12.mn.us>

URL: <https://goo.gl/Yzcz3Z>



Why Use File Replication

- Keeping files synchronized across many devices
- Transparent file backups
- Ransomware/virus mitigation

Why Not Use Google Drive Backup and Sync

- Not trivial to replicate files to multiple devices
- Speed limited internet connection
- Reverting many files to a previous version is very tedious.
- Google sometimes kills products (e.g Google Drive Sync)
 - [Drive desktop sync client now shutting down](#)
- No Control over the server software updates.

Why Use Seafile

- Really good documentation (Even for the community edition)
 - [Server Manual](#)
 - [Help Pages](#)
- Wide client support Windows, MacOS, iOS, Android, Linux, FreeBSD, Web
 - [Seafile Download Page](#)
- Speed (Local, Low Overhead Syncing)
- Supports TFA via Google Authenticator
- Open Source/Community Version has Everything most people need.
 - [Feature Comparison Table](#)
- Simple Upgrades (tar extract then run DB script)
 - [Official upgrade documentation](#)

Killer Seafile Features

- Library History (Default: 30 days, up to forever)
- Active Directory Integration
- Web Service (Works behind Apache or Nginx and works with Let's Encrypt)
 - [Deploy with Apache](#)
 - [Deploy with Nginx](#)

Library History / Revision Control

- Very Useful in case of ransomware attacks
- Easy to revert entire library to a previous date's version in a few clicks
- Can be configured to keep files forever, but defaults to 30 days

Active Directory Integration

- Works alongside database authentication (MySQL/SQLite)
- Fairly simple to configure: Make an AD User, edit one config file.
 - [LDAP/AD Authentication Documentation](#)
 - [Config Example](#)
- Google Authentication only works for the web client.
 - [OAuth Authentication Documentation](#)

Seafile Links and Resources

- [Seafile website](#)
- [Seafile Server Manual](#)
- [Seafile Roadmap](#)
- [My Seafile Wiki Pages](#)
- [Linux Install Scripts](#)
- [Manual Linux Install](#)

Demos

- File Replication between two clients.
- Syncing to a new Directory.
- Syncing to an existing directory.
- Syncing with Conflicts.
- Library Rollback