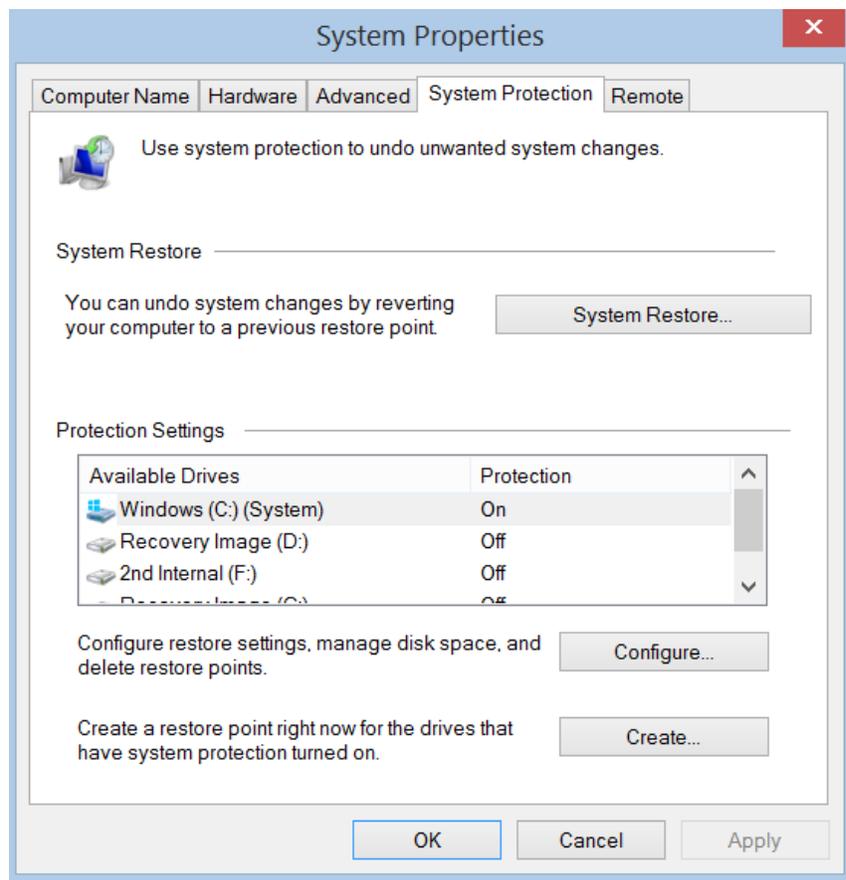## WHAT YOU WILL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THE WINDOWS REGISTRY

The Windows Registry is at the heart of the Windows operating system. The Registry is a group of system files constructed into a database that contains system-level and application-level parameters on both a machine and a user basis. If the Registry were to become corrupted it could render your system unusable, so it's important to take regular backups of it so you can restore a good copy of the Registry if necessary.
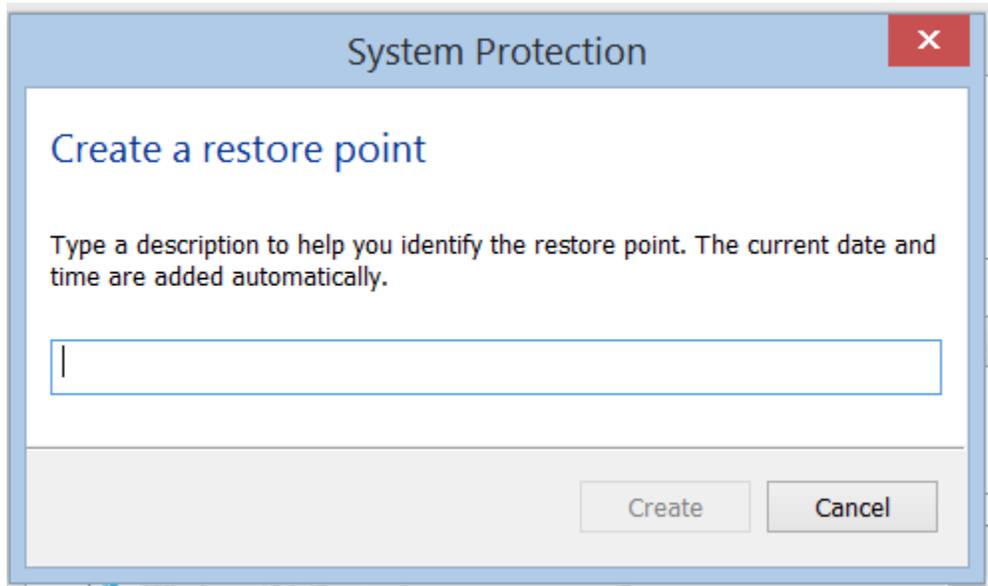
The easiest way to protect yourself is to take a backup of the complete Registry. This can be done by creating a **restore point**, since the Registry is included in restore points. To create a restore point, follow these steps:

1. From the Search box, type *restore point.*
2. Click *Create a restore point* from the list that appears in the column above the Search box.

3. Select the drive that you wish to protect (usually C).
4. Click on the *Create* button that will appear in the lower part of the System Properties window.

5. You will then be prompted to enter a description for the Restore Point. The date and time of the restore point you create will be inserted automatically.

6. At a later date, if you need to revert back to a restore point, follow steps1 and 2 and click on the *System Restore* button.

Restore Your Computer to an Earlier Point in Time (System Restore)
If you think an app or driver that you recently installed caused problems with your computer, you can restore it back to an earlier point in time, called a restore point. System Restore doesn't change your personal files, but it might remove recently installed applications and drivers.

To restore your computer using System Restore
1. From the *Search* box, type **system restore**.
2. From the top of the column above the search box, click on **create a restore point**.
3. Click **System Restore** (to go back in time to a previous restore point).
4. Follow the prompts.