Sign-In or By-Pass Beginning Screen on Windows 10:

I have had several computer users ask me if they can bypass the Windows 10 nature scene with its sign-in boxes and go directly to their desktop. If you are a single user of your computer or you just want to by-pass this security feature, you can get rid of the requirement to log in to Windows 10 each time you start up and go instead directly to your desktop.

How you rid yourself of the PC password requirement will depend on whether you use a "local" user account, or an online Microsoft account. <u>Account Differences Explained</u>

If it's not an online account, eliminating the PC password is fairly easy. Go to **Start**, and in the search box type **netplwiz**. When that name shows up in a list of run commands, click on it. You will get a menu called "user accounts." Uncheck the box in front of **Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer**. Click **OK**. In the next box, type your password (or PIN number) and click **OK**. When you reboot the PC, you won't be asked for a password or PIN.

If you signed up for a Microsoft online account (if you have a PIN number that suggests that you may have), you will have to make some other changes before following the instructions above.

When you sign up for a Microsoft online account, the setup process linked the online user account and the local one. So you must log on to your PC using your online password (typically your Microsoft e-mail password) or a PIN. You must sever this link before you can eliminate the need for a password.

To do that, go to **Start**, and click the **settings** icon (it looks like a gear wheel.) On the resulting menu, click **accounts**. On the next screen, click **sign in with a local account instead** and follow the directions.

Once your Microsoft and local PC logins aren't linked, you can follow the previous directions to eliminate the use of a PC password. You will still need to use a password to access your separate online account so do not forget to record the password for those special times it may be needed. You haven't eliminated the password. You have just limited when it is required to access your PC. (For more about local vs. online passwords, see <u>Account Types Discussion</u>).