

The Communicator

News from your local coop to keep you connected.

March 2019



Don't forget to call us if you'd like your capital credit check applied to your SGC bill.

Why not have one less bill to pay for a few months!

Annual Meeting

Spring Grove Communications invites all its members to the Annual Membership Meeting of the company. A short meeting will be held first then the meal will be served.

The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held:

When: Tuesday, March 26th

Where: Fest Building

Meeting: Starts at 5:00pm

Dinner: Following the meeting

RSVP: 498-7787

In order to make appropriate arrangements with the caterer it will be necessary to have an accurate count of people who plan to attend. Therefore, please RSVP by Tuesday, March 19th.

Two Director Positions Up

We currently have two director positions up for election for the Spring Grove Communication's Board of Directors. If you are interested in running and would like your name on the pre-printed ballot to become a Director, please stop in the office and pick up Section 4.3 Qualifications to be Nominated, To Become or Remain a Director. You will be required to sign a form upon acknowledgement of the information given to you. We would also like you to include a paragraph or so as to why you would like to serve on the Board of Directors. This, along with a photo of you, will be included with the program given to each member at the Annual Meeting prior to voting. Please have your paragraph turned into LeAnn no later than noon Wednesday, March 20th to be included in the program. You may drop off your information at our office or email it to leann@springgrove.coop.

New High Definition (HD) channels as of March 1st.

| Ch. Name | Ch. Number |
|-------------------|------------|
| RFD TV HD | 337 |
| Discovery Life HD | 365 |
| Nat Geo WILD HD | 441 |
| Bounce HD | 437 |
| Grit HD | 438 |
| LAFF HD | 439 |
| Escape HD | 440 |
| INSP HD | 443 |
| FidoTV HD | 444 |

Something New!

We are now offering a new product called:

SGC Managed Wi-Fi

Managed Wi-Fi is a **state-of-the-art** router provided and managed by SGC. With this new system we will be able to manage your router and see all connected devices and how strong the connection is to each one. We will also have the capability to troubleshoot issues from our office and recommend ways to correct the low signal areas found. The system also has the ability to add a Wi-Fi extender to fill dead spots and provide better wireless to the whole home or office regardless of size.

***Get started TODAY with
Managed Wi-Fi
from SGC
You won't regret it!***



Your Local Technology Headquarters
507-498-3456 • sgc@springgrove.coop • www.yourlocal.coop

Convenient Doesn't Always Mean Better

A customer asked whether or not we could hook his brand-new Smart TV up to his Wi-Fi rather than the hard wired ethernet connection that was already there. When asked why, he said "Wi-Fi is better". Home Wi-Fi is a wonderful technology that allows us a lot of convenience. But don't confuse more convenient with what we believe to be better.

Wi-Fi has great benefits but also limitations. The top speed on the 802.11 AC wireless standard is 866.7 Mbps. Compare that to the 10 Gbps that can be achieved by a Category 6 wired connection. The wire has the potential for more than 10 times the speed of wireless. (Although both are probably more than you need on any given connection in your home.)

Add to that the fact that the wireless to your television can be rendered useless by something as innocuous as placing a new photo on the entertainment center blocking the signal or even a new garage door opener that uses a signal close

to the one on your network. There is also the factor that with the proliferation of wireless in every home the chances of your neighbor and you being on the same frequency and channel are growing. We've seen this bring both home networks to their knees. Also note: not all televisions are created equal when it comes to the antenna they have built in. Some are terrible. Manufacturers cut cost of building/assembling their project by decreasing the quality of internal components, one being its wireless antenna.

Compare the above to a wired connection that is always there, always connected, and barring someone or some critter cutting or chewing the cable, will work forever and be faster than the wireless. For all these reasons we try to run a wired connection to every television location in a new home and will often run a new one as a remedy to the issue of weak wireless signal to a television in an existing home.



Take care of you this holiday season by signing up for Smarthub. With Smarthub you can set up auto payment, make a payment, view current and past bills, view our newsletters and you can even report trouble with any of our services you have. Download the Smarthub app on your smart phone and have access to your account at your fingertips.

WHAT? I Don't Need a Landline with my Internet?

Spring Grove Communications understands that many no longer see a benefit to having a landline and do not want to pay for what they do not use. SGC is now offering two internet packages that do not require a landline AND you can have TV too. That's right, Internet and TV without a landline is now available AND you earn capital credits! Call our office for full details.



The Choice is Yours!

25Mbps/10Mbps
download upload

\$80/Month

OR

50Mbps/25Mbps
download upload

\$95/Month