

National Cooperative Month

NEWSLETTER

Teleconnections

October 2022

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A Program of:
 THE RURAL BROADBAND ASSOCIATION®



October is Cooperative Month

What is a cooperative and how does it make Webster-Calhoun different from other companies? The reliability and quality of service provided on a fiber optic network by locally based employees makes a difference. Cooperatives were initially formed because communities could not get the basic services they needed – providers often avoided remote areas because of unfavorable economics.

Communities are represented on the Board of Directors where local people represent you and your local interests. They help point the cooperative in the direction that is in the best interest of the cooperative as it serves its members. Each time you subscribe to one of WCCTA's services you are not just becoming a customer; you are making an investment in a company you and your neighbors own.

Capital Credit Retirement

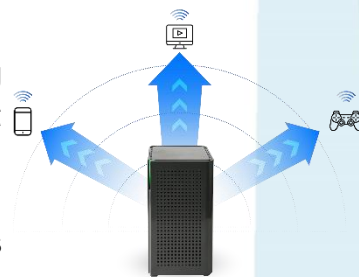
The WCCTA Board of Directors voted to retire 35% of the standard capital credits allocated for the year 2008 as well as 50% of the standard capital credits allocated for year of 2016. Late November checks totaling almost \$2.4 Million will be refunded to past and present members.

Members having service with us in 2008 and newer members with service in 2016 will receive checks this fall.

HAPPY HARVEST – WELCOME FALL!

The Power Behind Your Connection

While it is easy to see that wireless devices are not connected to anything they may rely on devices powered by electricity. For example, a smart phone or tablet may use a wireless charger connected to an electrical outlet. A cordless phone connects wirelessly to a charging station connected to an electrical outlet. Your laptop computer, even if it is plugged in, may connect wirelessly to your router which is connected to an electrical outlet. All these devices can be impacted if your power is out!



Cybersecurity Awareness Month

In a collaboration between government and private industry, the National Cybersecurity Alliance continues to provide digital security awareness and presents new ways to protect your personal data from digital forms of crime. Now in its 19th year, Cybersecurity Awareness Month continues to build momentum and impact how you utilize the internet and protect yourself. The theme for 2022: See Yourself in Cyber.

This year we focus on four key behaviors that can make all the difference to protect yourself while online.

- Enabling multi-factor authentication
- Using strong passwords and a password manager
- Updating software
- Recognizing and reporting phishing



You can learn how to #BeCyberSmart by visiting:

<https://staysafeonline.org/programs/cybersecurity-awareness-month/>

Scam Phone Calls

Unwanted calls, including illegal and spoofed robocalls, are the FCC's top consumer complaint. WCCTA offers several additional call protection services to add to your phoneline to limit these calls including selective call rejection and telemarketer call manager. Consumers can always report calls to the FCC for investigation or add their number to the Do Not Call Registry. Robocalls are made with an auto-dialer and contain a pre-recorded message with the intent to get callers to take a specific action. These actions can compromise your personal information. Your best form of protection is to not answer any phone calls from individuals you do not know and never give out personal information.

Read about other consumer tips on the FCC website:

<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/stop-unwanted-robocalls-and-texts?from=home>