

In Touch

SPRING 2015



We Love Our Customers and Community!

This is a great time of year to let people know how much they mean to you. All of us at Woodstock Telephone Company want you to know how much we appreciate your loyal patronage. It warms our hearts to see you enjoy our communications services and use them to stay better connected.

We also feel privileged to be part of this amazing community, filled with caring residents and growing businesses. As technology evolves, Woodstock Telephone Company will evolve along with it and work to make our community even better.

Contact

Woodstock Telephone Company
337 Aetna St. • PO Box C
Ruthton, MN 56170
Phone: 507-658-3830
Toll Free: 800-752-9397

Office Hours: M–F 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

After Hours Repair: 800-417-8685

Email: wtcinfo@woodstocktel.net

Online: www.woodstocktel.net



Woodstock



Aligning the Past with the Future

Many don't realize that your Woodstock Telephone Company stands among the most technologically-savvy telecommunications companies in America, with fiber to the home for nearly every customer. Our potential connectivity—our data/information throughput—is enormous!

Building on our strong tradition of high-tech service, we are moving forward. To reflect our expanded range of service, we needed a new look and feel as well as a new name: *Woodstock Communications*. While our old I.D. has served us well for so many years, our evolved brand symbolizes our commitment to serving your changing needs in the near and distant future.

More and more, people are turning to their communications companies for on-demand content and programming and Woodstock is on the forefront of this trend. We are dedicated to offering affordable service along with the modernized features. Our team is committed to giving that extra touch of service that larger companies cannot.

The linked O's in our new wordmark represent those goals. First and foremost, they demonstrate connectivity—not only the connections our services provide, but also the connection we feel to our customers, our employees and the communities we serve. The O's are technical and modern, yet friendly and familiar, which are all of the things we pride ourselves on as a company. The coloration of the wordmark contains blue and green tones, representing the natural environment of the agrarian region we serve.

We have exciting developments on the horizon for you. New technologies will allow us to bring service to many more in our region, including under-served areas starved for connectivity. We look forward to sharing those advancements in the months and year to come.

Starting in March, this will be our new look. Welcome to your new, old friend! Welcome to Woodstock Communications!



What is Net Neutrality?

You've probably heard and seen the term "net neutrality" in news reports but may not be sure exactly what it means. In the interest of keeping our customers informed about Internet issues, Woodstock Telephone Company offers you this quick overview.

Net neutrality means that Internet service providers (ISPs) treat all Internet traffic equally. ISPs are the ones responsible for "the last mile" of Internet access, which goes from the big Internet backbone servers to your computer. Under net neutrality, ISPs have to treat small websites the same as online giants like Netflix.

For a while now, ISPs have been asking the FCC for permission to treat high-traffic websites differently, permitting them to pay extra to get their own dedicated bandwidth space. This would give these companies a "fast lane" to consumers and give ISPs additional money to upgrade their systems to handle the traffic.

You can learn more about net neutrality at www.fcc.gov/guides/open-internet.

A Landline Phone is Part of Emergency Preparedness

In emergency situations, communication becomes critical. That's why it's important to maintain a landline phone at your home. A landline phone will:

Help 911 Locate You in Case of an At-Home Emergency

When 911 is called from a landline phone in your home, the emergency dispatch center automatically receives your precise location and will be able to dispatch a fast and accurate response. This is particularly critical if you're home alone and unable to speak to 911 due to choking, a stroke, or a heart attack. A landline phone can also be a lifesaver if a young child calls 911 and can't provide the home's address. By calling 911 from a landline phone, you can be more easily and specifically located during an emergency.

Keep You Connected During Power Outages or Natural Disasters

In a power outage, you can no longer charge your wireless phone so eventually it becomes useless. Wireless phone networks can also become overwhelmed by the sheer number of individuals trying to make calls simultaneously during a disaster.

A landline phone is a priceless tool for your family's safety during emergencies yet costs so little each month. To keep your peace of mind, keep your landline phone.



Fight Back and Take Control of Unwanted Calls and Mail

You've probably heard and seen the term "net neutrality" in news reports but may not be sure exactly what it means. In the interest of keeping our customers informed about Internet issues, Woodstock Telephone Company offers you this quick overview.

National Do Not Call Registry • www.donotcall.gov

The National Do Not Call Registry gives you a choice about whether to receive telemarketing calls at home. Most telemarketers should not call your number once it has been on the registry for 31 days. If they do, you can file a complaint at this website. The service is free and you can register up to three phone numbers (landline or mobile) in the online form.

Consumer Credit Reporting Industry • www.optoutprescreen.com

Credit card offers may help you compare interest rates and get good deals, but they can also be stolen by identity thieves from your mailbox. For security reasons, these mailings should be shredded before being thrown away, which can be time-consuming. OptOutPrescreen.com is a centralized service to accept and process requests from consumers to opt-out of these credit card offers. It's a joint venture among the Consumer Credit Reporting Companies of Equifax, Experian, Innovis, and TransUnion.