Connections

MAY/JUNE 2022

Our Annual Customer Appreciation Days are Back!

We're firing up the grill and we've got plenty of door prizes to give away. Grilled sandwiches will be served in each of our five core service communities from 11:30 am to 1 pm. Thank you for your loyal support!

- Calamus CALCO Hall Tuesday, June 14
- **Delmar** Grossman Hall Wednesday, June 15
- Wheatland Community Hall Thursday, June 16
- **Bennett** Fire Station Wednesday, June 22
- **Lowden** Legion Hall Thursday, June 23

Contact Us:

103 N. Main Street / PO Box 309 Wheatland, IA 52777

Office Hours: M-F 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Office Closures:

Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day

Phone Numbers:

Business Office: (563) 374-1236 or (563) 574-1236 After-Hours Trouble: (563) 374-1238 or (563) 574-1238 Internet Tech Support 24/7: 1-888-832-4322

Technology Solutions: (563) 374-1322

Visit Us Online: www.fbc-tele.com





ornerstone Group © 20

Go Green and Switch to Paperless Billing

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average American uses the equivalent of about one 100-foot-tall Douglas fir tree in paper each year. An easy and effective way to help the environment is to convert your billing statements from postal delivery to electronic delivery. This results in less demand for paper and less air pollution from paper production.

Mother Earth isn't the only one who will benefit, however. When you switch to paperless billing, you'll have less paper clutter in your home. You'll also save time sorting, filing, and shredding.

F&B offers paperless billing as part of our convenient eBilling program. With paperless billing, you won't receive a billing statement from us in the mail. Instead, you'll be alerted when your monthly bill is ready for you to review online, then you can pay it online with SmartHub.

It's quick and easy to sign up for the paperless billing option in our eBilling program. Simply visit www.fbc-tele.com and click the SmartHub link. If you have questions or need help, call us at (563) 374-1236.



What You Can Do About Buffering During Streaming

When you're excited about streaming a movie or TV program, the last thing you want to see is the annoying rotating arrow or spinning circle that indicates buffering is taking place. Before we share tips on how to minimize buffering, let's start with an explanation of why it happens.

Buffering refers to downloading a certain amount of data before starting to play the video. One



common form of buffering occurs when your internet connection is too slow to stream a video in real time. Your device will buffer the video data and start playback when there is enough to prevent video lag. If the streaming video reaches the point where it must wait until more information is available, it will pause, and you'll again see the loading screen. Once the video stream catches up, it plays again.

This process can take just a few seconds or might last several minutes. If the video is long, you might encounter several buffering sessions during your viewing time.

If you experience buffering often and are frustrated by it, you may want to upgrade your internet speed. A slow connection will delay the delivery of audio and video information, in which case you will see the loading screen. A fast connection can stream movies and TV programs virtually without interruption and easily accommodate high-definition or 4D video. For an optimal streaming experience, we recommend an internet speed of 100 Mbps or higher.

An additional consideration is how fast your router can send the video and other information to the computers, media streamers, smart TVs, and internet-enabled Blu-ray players connected to it. Routers designed to work with streaming video, sometimes called AV routers, can stream more data, reducing playback interruptions. F&B's SmartHub WiFi router supports the latest AV streaming technology and has the power to support multiple devices.

If you have questions related to buffering, need help selecting a faster internet plan, or want to learn about SmartHub WiFi, call F&B at (563) 374-1236 or stop by our office.