

# COLUMBUS TELEPHONE CO.

## COLUMBUS TELE-SCOPE



**INTERNET SPEEDS  
HAVE  
INCREASED!**

Some of you may have missed the announcement in our last newsletter about an increase in our Internet speeds. As 2007 closed, we shared that our slowest Ethernet speed was going from 2 megabits to 4 megabits, our 3 megabits was going to 8 megabits, and our 8 megabits speed was moving to 16 megabits. All of these will be synchronous (same speed up and down). What does this mean to you the member? An example might be the best way to answer that question; Using a 16 megabit connection you could upload a 250 megabit file of 200 photos in a little over 2 minutes. Compared to a 768 kilobit speed of nearly 50 minutes. A 500 megabit file (maybe 400 pictures or possibly an X-ray from a hospital) would take about 5 minutes compared to an hour and one-half on a 768 kilobyte connection.

We think these continued improvements in broadband offerings, demonstrates your telephone cooperative is more than the plain old telephone company your parents and grandparents nurtured as members. However, one thing remains the same . . . . quality services from high tech professionals you call neighbors!

4 MEG Residential \$37.00 Business \$47.00  
8 MEG Residential \$47.00 Business \$67.00  
16 MEG Residential \$67.00 Business \$97.00

SUMMER 2008

224 S. KANSAS AVE  
COLUMBUS, KS  
66725

620-429-3132  
Fax 620-429-1704  
email:

coltelco@columbus-ks.com

### Business Hours

8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Monday thru Friday

REMEMBER  
BEFORE YOU DIG  
CALL  
1-800-344-7233  
SO APPROPRIATE  
LOCATES WILL BE  
DONE TO AVOID  
HITTING ANY  
BURIED SERVICES.

**INTERNET  
HELP DESK  
429-3132**

**HOURS  
Mon-Fri 8 am to 5 pm**

**DO NOT CALL LIST  
1-888-382-1222**



Sign up for Caller ID today, know who's calling before you answer the phone! Caller ID with Name & Number \$5.98 per month Caller ID with Number only \$3.49 per month Plus \$2.00 activation. Call us at 429-3132 to activate this great calling feature.



We were shocked this past week! We had a couple of people tell us they didn't realize e-mail from Columbus Internet came as part of the service. Apparently some people feel Yahoo or Hotmail is the only way they can do email. That's not true! You can check your Columbus Internet email from anywhere in the world FREE! So if you are not using all of our locally offered Internet service, you might want to rethink how you do e-mail. You get up to 5 e-mail accounts FREE.

**DID YOU KNOW-** Unsecured wireless networks in your home or business, may be accessible to wireless-equipped users up to 200 feet away! In fact, wireless hackers often drive through neighborhoods or business districts looking for open wireless networks. You can no longer just plug in a wireless router and surf till your hearts content.

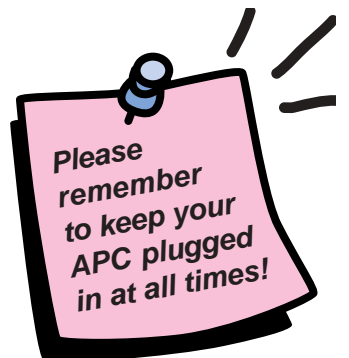
To avoid problems, change your modem's default service set identifier (SSID) to a unique name and disable SSID broadcast. Then, enable a security mode. Wi-Fi Protected Access may be one to consider. Finally, get yourself some good network monitoring software. Then, you'll know if someone is stealing your signal!



## **SAFE DIGGING IS IMPORTANT!**

Please remember to call Kansas one call before you dig. When you use Kansas One Call, you insure that the utilities will be marked before you begin your work. call 1-800-344-7233.

**DON'T FORGET...**  
As a FiberVision Customer if you buy/bought a digital TV with a QAM tuner from Westco in Columbus during 2008, you will be entered into a drawing to win another digital TV. Drawing to be held at the end of December.



## FTC CLARIFIES CAN-SPAM ACT PROVISION

The Federal Trade Commission has approved four new rules under the controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003 that are intended to clarify the Act's requirements. The new rules address four topics:

- 1) an e-mail recipient cannot be required to pay a fee, provide information other than his or her e-mail address and opt-out preferences, or take any steps other than sending a reply e-mail message or visiting a single Internet Web page to opt-out of receiving future e-mail from a sender.
- 2) the definition of "sender" was modified to make it easier to determine which of multiple parties advertising in a single e-mail message is responsible for complying with the Act's opt-out requirements.
- 3) a "sender" of commercial e-mail can include an accurately-registered post office box or private mailbox can include an accurately-registered established under United States Postal Service regulations to satisfy the Act's requirement that a commercial e-mail display a "valid physical postal address".
- 4) a definition of the term "person" was added to clarify that CAN-SPAM's obligations are not limited to natural persons.

CAN-SPAM'S DEFINITION OF "transactional or relationship message:" the Commission's decision not to alter the length of time a "sender" of commercial e-mail has to honor an opt-out request; the Commission's determination not to designate additional "aggravated violations" under the Act; and the Commission's views on how CAN-SPAM applies to forward-to-a-"friend" e-mail marketing campaigns, in which someone either receives a commercial e-mail message and forwards the e-mail to another person, or uses a Web-based mechanism to forward a link to or copy of a Web page to another person.

The FTC explained that if the seller offers something of value in exchange for forwarding a commercial message, the seller must comply with the Act's requirements, such as honoring opt-out requests. The new rules will become effective 45 days after publication in the Federal Register.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ftc.gov/opa/2008/056canspam.shtm>

<http://www.ftc.gov/os/2008/05/R411008frn.pdf>

Please keep in mind as we transition through digital conversion, if you have tv's in your home that are not currently receiving cable and can be connected to a coax outlet you may want to consider calling our office to have a cable outlet installed to avoid the need for a set top box. Our technicians will come on site and run exposed wiring for a fee of \$20.00 for each outlet. You can then enjoy Columbus FiberVision cable without the need of a external converter box. If you are needing information regarding a \$40.00 coupon to help defray the cost of a set top box, please call our office 429-3132.

Columbus Telephone Co.  
224 S Kansas Ave  
Columbus, KS 66725  
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Email: coltelco@columbus-ks.com



BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 2

## Thank you for being our Customer!

Want to see a great website? check out the following:  
[www.columbus-kansas.com/foundation/contacts.html](http://www.columbus-kansas.com/foundation/contacts.html)

A black background with a vibrant floral pattern of various flowers in red, yellow, pink, and purple. A large white cloud-like shape is centered on the left side, containing text.

We have added 2 new channels to our HD offering  
They are as follows:  
**Channel 104.2 QVC HD**  
**Channel 104.10 WGN HD**  
If you subscribe to Basic 2 and have a digital TV with a QAM tuner.  
Please reprogram your remotes to pick up these new channels.



**Basic 1 \$39.00 for 51 channels**  
**Basic 2 \$53.00 for 78 channels**  
**Premium channels**  
**any 1 premium pkg \$13.00,**  
**any 2 packages \$20.00,**  
**any 3 packages \$28.00,**  
**all 4 premium packages**  
**(9 channels total) \$35.00**

**Premium Channels available are:**  
**HBO, Cinemax, Encore/Starz/Western,**  
**or Showtime Unlimited**