In Touch

SPRING 2017



Get Ready to Put a Spring in Your Step

There's nothing like the start of spring after a long winter. It's time to throw open the windows, slip on your sandals, and watch for the first bursts of green outside.

Spring is also a great time to take steps forward in your personal journey, whether that involves learning new things or expanding your circle of friends. Contact Albany Mutual Telephone if you need help stepping up your technology.

Contact

Albany Mutual Telephone

131 6th Street Albany, MN 56307 Phone: 320.845.2101

Office Hours

M-F: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Email

customersupport@albanytel.com

Visit Albany Mutual Telephone Online www.albanytel.com



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*Service availability and internet speeds will depend on location. Call us for complete details.

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To access content through WatchTVEverywhere, you'll first need to register at www. watchtveverywhere.com. It's quick and easy; just have your Albany Mutual Telephone TV account number handy. Not yet one of our TV customers? Call us today at 320.845.2101 to sign up.





Universal Service Fund FAQs

What is the Universal Service Fund (USF)?

The USF is a government-administered fund (not a government-paid fund) to support the provision of telecommunications services in rural and high-cost areas, to low-income consumers, and to schools, libraries, and healthcare facilities nationwide. All telecommunications customers contribute to the USF on an equal basis. Congress authorized the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to implement the USF.

How does it work for Albany Mutual Telephone?

The Universal Service High-Cost Program is designed to ensure that consumers in rural and highcost areas have access to telecommunications services at rates that are affordable and reasonably comparable to those in urban areas. The program fulfills this universal service goal by allowing eligible carriers, including Albany Mutual Telephone, who serve these areas to recover some of their operating costs from the USF. The fund reimbursement is based only on local phone service subscriptions.

Will I continue to be required to subscribe to local phone service to receive broadband internet and cable TV services?

Yes. Since the FCC continues to base USF reimbursement on local phone line subscriptions, we must keep this requirement in place. If we did not require a phone line subscription, Albany Mutual Telephone would not receive USF funding, and the rates for broadband internet and cable TV service would have to go up. We do anticipate changes to this requirement in the future, but it will need to remain in place as long as USF is based only on local phone networks.

What is Albany Mutual Telephone doing with the USF funding it receives?

We're continuing to upgrade our network so that all customers, no matter how rural, can receive broadband internet services.

How can I voice my concerns about USF?

You can contact the FCC as well as your U.S. Senators or Congressman. Please encourage them to seek USF reform that is less burdensome to rural Americans and rural communication service providers.