

NEMONT **TODAY**



SPR
16**GET NEMONT &
GET CONNECTED****Crow Agency, MT**Monument Center, Suite 1
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Glasgow, MT**702 2nd Ave S
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Plentywood, MT**115 W 2nd Ave
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Poplar, MT**604 Assiniboine Ave
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Scobey, MT**61 Hwy 13 S
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Williston, ND**1135 2nd Ave. W. Suite 206
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST Mon-Fri**Wolf Point, MT**220 Benton St
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri**Worden, MT**2457 Main St
9 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Mon
8 a.m. - noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Thurs**Visit our website at****www.nemont.net or check
out our Facebook page at
[www.facebook.com/
NemontCountry](http://www.facebook.com/NemontCountry).****NEMONT WILL BE CLOSED**

- 05/30 – Memorial Day
- 07/04 – Independence Day
- 09/05 – Labor Day



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NEMONT TODAY

A NOTE FROM NEMONT'S CEO, MIKE KILGORE

Notice anything different? We gave the Nemont Today newsletter a makeover to update its design and expand its content.



As noted on the cover, Nemont is celebrating a major achievement—being recognized by NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association as a **Certified Gig-Capable Provider**. Discover what this all means, including just how fast a Gig Internet connection is, on pages 4 and 5. If your home or business could use faster Internet, now's a great time to contact Nemont about an upgrade. Also in this issue, find out the **essentials of streaming video**, how to enter our **2016 photo contest**, and much more.

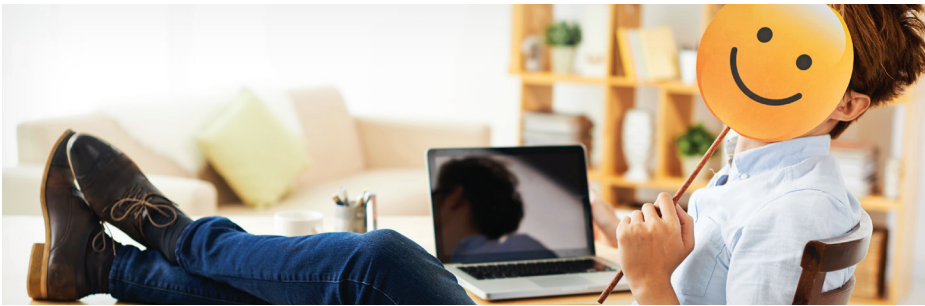
The ability to change is essential for business success, and Nemont continues to embrace new technologies in order to bring you better solutions. One example is **SmartHub**, a smart way to manage your Nemont account and pay your bill electronically. We urge you to start using SmartHub if you aren't already. Also on the topic of change, I'd like to share important news:

Nemont has launched a Fiber to the Home project (FTTH) in Hinsdale! It's now in its preliminary phase as we seek to acquire right of way in hopes of beginning construction this summer. Nemont crews were recently in the area performing site surveys, which are needed when fiber is installed. Many subscribers in rural settings are not able to receive the benefits of a large and reliable bandwidth connection, due to older copper networks and their distance limitations. When fiber is installed in Hinsdale, customers will experience more reliable voice services as well as access to higher Internet speeds and our video services.

In 1996, the Universal Service Fund (USF) was created to help companies like Nemont provide essential and affordable telecommunication services in high-cost rural areas that are comparable to those offered in urban areas. The original intent of USF was to provide support to rural companies to aid in the deployment and maintenance of plain old telephone service, but we now live in a world that demands high-speed Internet and mobility. **The FCC has been working to transform the USF to support today's relevant and in-demand services.**

In 2011, the FCC released its first comprehensive USF reform order with the goal of modernizing the universal service and intercarrier compensation systems. (Inter-carrier compensation refers to the charges that other telecommunications providers pay Nemont for the use of our network.) The changes are supposed to ensure that robust, affordable voice and broadband service, both fixed and mobile, are available to Americans across the nation.

Continued on page 3



FACEBOOK'S REACTIONS GIVE YOU MORE OPTIONS THAN JUST "LIKE"

For years, the Facebook "Like" button has been one of the social media giant's most popular and distinguishing features. Yet sometimes clicking on the "Like" button after reading a post just didn't seem appropriate, such as with posts in which someone announces a job loss, divorce, death, or illness. This is why Facebook now gives you five options in addition to the "Like" button to express a much broader range of emotions.

Here's a rundown of Reactions:



Like (thumbs up)

Use this emoji when you approve of a post or comment.



Love (heart)

Use the love emoji to express your love for the person posting, or if you like the post so much that the "Like" button just isn't enough.



Haha (laughing face)

The haha emoji expresses just that: laughter.



Wow (face with its mouth open)

This emoji expresses disbelief or shock. It is the icon equivalent of gasping.



Sad (frowny face)

Use this emoji when you are sad about or disappointed by what someone wrote.



Angry (mad face)

The angry face icon expresses outrage, or sometimes disagreement.

It's easy to bring up these emojis. While on Facebook, simply press the "Like" button continuously or hover your mouse for a couple of seconds. Once displayed, you can see the number of people who have chosen each emoji for that specific post, and select which one will express your feelings most accurately.

We hope you're part of Nemont's Facebook community, so you can hear about our latest promotions, company news, and community events. You'll find us at www.facebook.com/NemontCountry.

A NOTE FROM NEMONT'S CEO

Continued from page 2

Why are we so concerned with the FCC's actions? **The funding Nemont receives from the USF, combined with intercarrier compensation, comprises over 50 percent of our total revenue.** It's because of these systems that we're able to transform our network to the modern broadband network needed today and tomorrow.

In 2015, the FCC released its latest order on USF reform. To comply with the significant changes to the USF rules governing small rural carriers such as Nemont, we'll need to make a difficult choice from two options. The first is a regulatory system where we receive USF support via a cost model based on a fictitious network design. One drawback is that while we'll know our payments for the next 10 years, there is no certainty as to what happens after that 10-year period. The second option is to stay within the existing cost-based rate of return regulations. However, the rate of return that may be earned on the regulated interstate services will be reduced from 11.25 percent to 9.75 percent over a six-year period and "stand-alone" broadband (the purchase of broadband without voice service) will be supported under a transformed USF mechanism involving 11 convoluted steps to come up with the new supported amount.

Nemont's commitment to provide high-quality, advanced, and competitive communications services in rural communities remains steadfast. We're working diligently to analyze the potential impact of each option. One thing we know for certain is that the future of USF continues to be uncertain!

Mike Kilgore

Mike Kilgore/CEO



NEMONT NAMED CERTIFIED GIG-CAPABLE PROVIDER

Nemont was recently recognized as a Certified Gig-Capable Provider by NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association for delivering gigabit broadband speeds and enabling technological innovation in the Scobey/Scobey Rural communities. NTCA is the premier association representing nearly 900 independent, community-based telecommunications companies that are leading progress in rural and small-town America.

As a Certified Gig-Capable Provider, Nemont joins a national campaign to build awareness and industry recognition of community-based telecom providers that have built communications networks capable of delivering Internet speeds of up to one gigabit per second. Nemont also received tools to promote itself as a Gig-Capable Provider in the Scobey/Scobey Rural communities and will be recognized in NTCA media, on the NTCA website, and during association conferences and events.

"I applaud Nemont for its commitment to delivering the Internet's fastest speeds—an accomplishment worthy of much praise considering the unique and challenging circumstances small, community-based telecommunications providers operate under every day in serving some of our country's most rural and remote communities," said NTCA Chief Executive Officer Shirley Bloomfield. "By building a gigabit-capable network, Nemont has not only overcome these challenges, but also shattered conventional benchmarks for broadband speed to enable cutting-edge technologies that drive innovation and

promote economic development in their communities, region and nationwide."

Mike Kilgore, Chief Executive Officer of Nemont, noted, "Nemont is proud to offer gigabit services because high-speed Internet creates endless possibilities in a connected world. Existing businesses can grow, new businesses can be established in rural areas, schools can develop one-on-one initiatives, telemedicine can be offered in rural communities, and communities can enhance their economic development. With these faster Internet speeds, our rural lifestyle will be enhanced without having to sacrifice access to services that have previously only been offered in urban areas."

To achieve certification, telecommunications companies must show that gigabit technology is currently commercially available within 95 percent of one or more exchanges within its serving territory and that such service can be provided without new trenching or stringing new aerial facilities. This statement must be confirmed by a letter from an engineering firm or other independent source involved in the company's network planning, deployment or operation.

Nemont's Gig Internet speeds are currently available in Williston, Nemont Fiber areas, and some parts of the South Central Project area. For more details, call us at 1-800-636-6680 or 406-783-2200.

HOW FAST IS A GIG INTERNET CONNECTION?

You've probably heard people mention Gig Internet speeds in the last few years, but like many, you may be unclear on exactly what the term means. Just how fast is a Gig?

A Gig means 1 Gbps (Gigabit per second). It's the equivalent of 1,000 Mbps (Megabits per second), which is over 100 times faster than the average high-speed Internet connection in the U.S. of 10 Mbps.

Take a look at this comparison of how much faster you can complete online activities with a 1 Gbps connection versus a 10 Mbps connection:

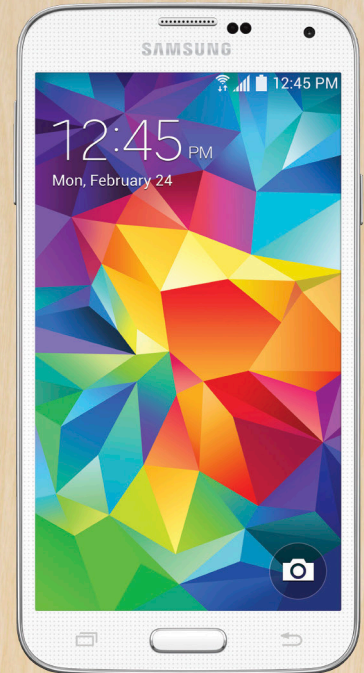
| Application | 10 Mbps Connection | 1 Gbps Connection |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Download HD movie | Over an hour and a half | Less than one minute |
| Download 100 digital pictures | Five minutes | Three seconds |
| Stream multiple movies and/or TV shows | Maxes out at only two HD shows | Capable of streaming 200 HD shows at one time |
| Download 20GB video game | Almost five hours | Less than three minutes |
| Download 100 digital music files | Five minutes and 20 seconds | Less than four seconds |

In addition to these incredibly fast download times, a 1 Gbps connection also provides households with enhanced Internet performance and enjoyment. For example, gamers are able to seamlessly play online games with real-time video content and 3D responsiveness. And video quality is greatly improved during video conferencing with Skype or other services.

In the business world, Gig speeds are a huge timesaver and productivity booster. Employees can do whatever they're doing now — data transferring, downloading and uploading — but it will get done in seconds instead of minutes, or minutes instead of hours. Gig speeds also open the door to the optimal use of real-time collaboration tools and cloud-based applications.

Go big and go Gig!

Dad!
Get A Free Samsung Galaxy S5 For Your Grad



Purchase any Samsung Galaxy S6 or Note 5 phone and get a free S5



Offer expires 6/30/16, or while supplies last. Some restrictions apply. A 2-year voice and data contract are required. Taxes, surcharges and other fees are in addition to your monthly access fee. See store for details.

YOUR PHOTO COULD BE FAMOUS!

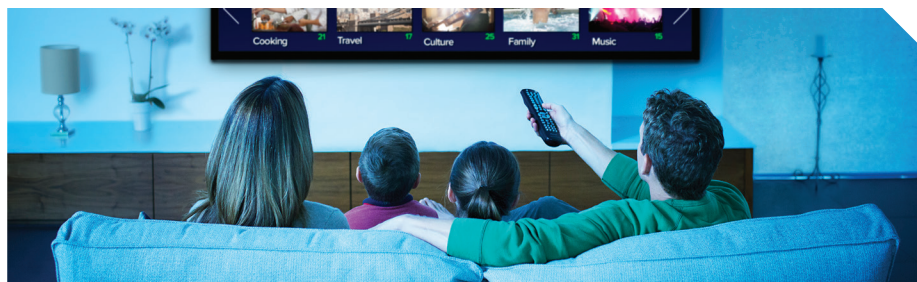
Take a shot at getting your photo in our 2016 wall calendar. Nemont is pleased to announce the 2016 Photo Contest for all our shutterbug customers, to showcase the beautiful life and spirit of our service area.

Winners will have their photo entries featured in the 2016 Nemont wall calendar, which will be distributed at Nemont Telephone Cooperative's annual meeting in October. One entry may be selected for the Nemont Telephone directory cover and/or large wall calendar distributed to business customers.

Send us your best photos capturing the scenes, people, places and events of Montana and northwest North Dakota. The deadline to enter is 07/15/16. Email your high-resolution photo files to photos@nemont.coop.



Leaning Homestead
2015 Photo Contest winner



WHO NEEDS PAY-PER-VIEW? USE STREAMING VIDEO INSTEAD!

You may think you need a TV service with Pay-Per-View in order to select a movie to enjoy at home. Thanks to new technology, that's no longer the case. You can enjoy the same type of convenience and entertainment variety of Pay-Per-View by watching streaming video.

What do you need to get started with streaming video? Not much, and you probably have some of the technology already. Here are the essentials:

- **A high speed Internet connection.** In order to get good video quality while streaming — without buffering — you'll want a connection with download speeds of at least 10 Mbps.
- **An Internet-ready TV or external device.** There are many devices to choose from including Apple TV, Roku Streaming Media Player, Roku Streaming Stick, and Google Chromecast.
- **A streaming service.** For a small monthly fee, you can get access to an unlimited number of movies through a streaming service. The most popular ones today are Netflix and Amazon Instant Video, and they both offer vast movie libraries.

When you combine your Nemont TV service with streaming video, you get an excellent entertainment value. To find out more, please call 1-800-636-6680 or 406-783-2200.

WIN A \$25 CREDIT!

You could win a \$25 credit on your Nemont account. To enter, answer the trivia questions and fill out this official form, then drop it by one of our offices or mail it to: **PO Box 600, Scobey, MT 59263-0600 Attn: Drawing.** Faxed, duplicated, emailed or photocopied entries will not be accepted. Winners will be contacted by phone and listed in the Fall 2016 issue.

-\$25 CREDIT OFFICIAL ENTRY -

When was USF created? _____

How many Mbps does one gig equal? _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Area events listed are free of charge. Submit your events by the 15th of July so that they may appear in our next issue. Send to: PO Box 600, Scobey, MT 59263-0600, Attention: Community Calendar or email to nemonttoday@nemont.coop.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S GRADUATES

As the school year winds to a close, Nemont would like to congratulate this year's graduates and wish you all good luck as you begin the next chapter in your lives. During all those years in school, you've gone from learning your ABCs to taking the ACTs. Nemont hopes you're proud of how hard you've worked and how far you've come.

Whether your future plans include continuing your education or entering the job market, you'll need to stay connected to technology to help reach your goals. You can count on Nemont for excellent values on a wide selection of wireless phones and plans, Internet service, and more. You can also count on us for expert advice on selecting the right technology and making the most of new features.

Perhaps one day, you might bring your talents to Nemont and join our team.

JUNE

- **06/24-26 Native Days**
Crow Agency, MT
- **06/25 Fishtail Family Fun Day**
Fishtail, MT
- **06/26 Montana BBQ Cook-off**
Absarokee, MT

JULY

- **07/08 & 09 Homesteader Days**
Huntley, MT

- **07/09 Nye Goes Nuts**
Nye, MT
- **07/30 Clark Days**
Pompey's Pillar, MT

AUGUST

- **08/19-21 Crow Fair**
Crow Agency, MT
- **08/20 Pioneer Days**
Belfry, MT



CONNECTING WITH FRIENDS ON FACEBOOK

You're invited to visit Nemont on Facebook to stay updated on our community activities and special values on our communications services. Like what you see? Give us a "thumbs up" with a Like! www.facebook.com/NemontCountry



PO Box 600
 Scobey, MT 59263-0600
 1-800-636-6680 or 406-783-2200

KNOW WHAT'S BELOW...

**CALL 811
 BEFORE YOU DIG**

All sorts of utility lines, pipes, and cables could be buried underground on your property. That's why every digging job — from planting a bush to installing a fence — requires a call to 811 to have utility lines marked.



\$65
 *Per Month
**Unlimited
 Nationwide
 Minutes!**

Unlimited Nationwide Plan includes:

- Free Basic Voicemail
- Free Text Messaging
- Free Incoming Calls
- Free Nemont Calls
- Free Nights & Weekends
- No Roaming Charges
- No Long Distance Charges

Unlimited nationwide voice service when using Nemont's selected roaming partners. Actual user experience may be impacted by coverage, cell site capacity and other conditions. Taxes, surcharges and other fees are in addition to your monthly access fee. Some restrictions apply. Nemont's home network is located in Northeastern and South Central Montana. For a more detailed description of Nemont's service area, please call 800-636-6680.



800.636.6680 | nemont.net

**NEMONT WELCOMES
 NEW EMPLOYEES**

- | | |
|--|---|
| Karen Cote Receptionist | Lola Snitchler Engineering Clerk |
| Morgan Lorenzo Customer Service Specialist | Ed Strickland Building/Custodial Maintenance Technician |
| Chasity Krauth Customer Service Specialist | Jodi Willis Customer Service Specialist |
| Zachary Miller Internet Coordinator | Kayla Christensen Customer Service Specialist |
| Ciara Ost Internet Coordinator | |

WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?

Outside Plant Engineer
 Williston, ND

Visit www.nemont.net to view more details about all open positions and fill out an application form.