

HelloCentral

SPECIAL EDITION, 2016

Wheat State Telephone is on Facebook!

You can stay connected to Wheat State at all times on Facebook. Be the first to know of our upcoming promotions, product enhancements, and fraud alerts.

To sign up, simply search for the Wheat State Telephone page on Facebook.com and mark that you "like" Wheat State Telephone.

CONTACT

Wheat State Telephone
106 West First Street, PO Box 320
Udall, Kansas 67146
Phone: 620-782-3341
Fax: 620-782-3302

Office Hours

Udall (Main Office), 800-442-6835
M-F: 8am-12pm & 1pm-5pm

Potwin, 800-387-7739
M-F: 8am-12pm &
12:30pm-4:30pm

Olpe, 800-440-3018
M-F: 8am-12pm &
12:30pm-4:30pm

E-mail

care_team@wheatstate.com

Visit Wheat State Telephone Online
www.wheatstate.com

Internet Tech Support 24/7
888-377-6523
support@wheatstate.com

OFFICE CLOSURES

Presidents' Day - Monday,
February 15, 2016
Good Friday - Friday, March 25, 2016

HELLO CENTRAL EDITOR

Berniece Millsap



Starting Outdoor Projects? Dial 811 First!



The official start of spring is almost here, and with it comes a variety of landscaping projects. Whether you're adding trees and shrubs, installing a deck, or putting up a new fence, Wheat State Telephone reminds you to pick up your phone before you pick up your shovel.

Dialing before you dig isn't just a recommendation—it's the law. By digging without knowing where electrical, gas, cable TV and other service lines are, you could harm yourself or others, or interrupt services to your entire neighborhood. You may even incur fines and repair costs.

To make it easier, a national hotline now exists. Just dial 811, and representatives will route your request to local utility companies, who will have professionals mark



your lines. Call just a few days prior to doing any work, to allow time for them to mark your property. Then you can take on any project without compromising safety.

As one of your local service providers, we thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Kansas Lifeline ... You May Be Eligible!

If you are eligible, you can receive a discount on your monthly local telephone bill through the Kansas Lifeline program. If you don't currently have telephone service, you also may be eligible for a discount on your connection charge through Link Up America. You may qualify for Lifeline based on your annual income or if you receive assistance from any of the following programs:

- Food Stamps
- General Assistance
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- Temporary Assistance to Families
- Medicaid
- United Tribes Food Distribution program
- Head Start
- National School Lunch program

Income must be verified by the previous year's tax return or three consecutive months of statements from other types of income. For more information, please call Wheat State Telephone toll-free at 800-442-6835.



TAP Free Specialized Phones for Kansans

Individuals who have a hearing, vision, speech, cognitive or mobility disability/impairment can receive a free telephone if the following eligibility requirements are met:

- Have residency in the state of Kansas
- Have telephone service in the home/residence
- Have a disability or impairment in which a specialized telephone would be more helpful
- Have a household gross income of less than \$55,000 per year

For more information or to request an application call: 785-234-0200 (Voice), 785-234-0207 (TTY) or go to www.kansastap.org.



The Internet Has Given New Meaning to Old Words

The Internet has changed many things, including how we use certain words. Take a look at a few examples:

Feed – You still can use feed to mean giving someone food or the food itself. But these days, it often means your social media news feed, as in, “My Facebook feed is filled with pics of vacations, babies, and engagement rings.”

Link – This word emerged in English in the 15th century, and was used early on to describe loops forming a chain. Now link also refers to a hyperlink (often text or images) that when clicked, bring you to another location on the web.

Poke – You probably grew up using this word in sentences such as, “I just poked myself in the eye.” Now poke can also refer to the Facebook feature used to send virtual pushes, prods, or jabs to someone in your social circle.

Status – It used to be that status meant a social standing in society, perhaps represented by your home, car, or profession. When people are talking about status today, however, it often means the status they posted on Facebook about what’s going on in their life that day.

Tag – Remember the neighborhood game you played as a kid? It’s still around, but you’ll hear the word used more often these days with a different meaning. Tag is a term for naming names, when it comes to who’s who in a photograph posted on Facebook, so the photo appears on the tagged person’s Facebook wall as well.

Troll – Years ago, this word would conjure up images of the ugly creatures with long hair featured in Scandinavian folklore. But in today’s Internet slang, a troll is a person who posts deliberately antagonizing comments online.



Protect Your Services and Your Wallet

You can guard against budget-busting repairs to your interior phone wiring and high speed Internet equipment with Wheat State's SERVICE GUARD for only \$4.95 per month. SERVICE GUARD includes all the benefits of WIRE GUARD—diagnosis, repair and replacement parts for interior phone wires—and adds that same protection for any high speed Internet wiring and equipment purchased from Wheat State.*

As a SERVICE GUARD customer, your calls will take priority, even after hours. We'll also show you how to get the most out of your equipment and make sure your Wheat State services are trouble-free. SERVICE GUARD can save you big money, since without it, you'll pay a \$25 trip fee plus \$75 per hour for labor and up to \$125 for equipment replacement.

Sign up now for SERVICE GUARD or WIRE GUARD and start enjoying more peace of mind.

*The plan does not cover high speed equipment purchased elsewhere or include damage caused by natural disaster, flood, earthquake, riot, acts of war, gross negligence, willful damage, vandalism or fire.



Spring into Action

Tired of being bombarded with unwanted phone calls and junk mail? Take action by registering with the sites below.

Do Not Call

www.donotcall.gov

The Federal Trade Commission says that more than 172 million phone numbers have been placed on the National Do Not Call Registry since it began in 2003. If you're not one of them, or if you've changed or added phone numbers since you originally registered, you may want to visit this site. You can enter up to three phone numbers (landline or wireless) in the online form.

Do Not Write

www.dmachoice.org/dma/member/regist.action

If you'd like to receive less advertising mail at home, you can use DMAchoice™, an online tool developed by the Direct

Marketing Association. This tool divides direct mail into four categories: Credit Offers, Catalogs, Magazine Offers, and Other Mail Offers. You can request to start or stop receiving mail from individual companies within each category—or from an entire category at once.

Do Not Send Credit Offers

www.optoutprescreen.com

Spending way too much time shredding credit card offers you get in the mail? OptOutPrescreen.com is a centralized service to accept and process requests from consumers to opt-out of these credit card offers. The service is a joint venture among the Consumer Credit Reporting Companies of Equifax, Experian, Innovis, and TransUnion. Once you provide your information, your name will be removed from inclusion on firm offer lists provided by all four companies.



What 9-1-1 Centers Want You to Know

In order for 9-1-1 centers to better serve their communities, it's important for citizens to understand the basics of 9-1-1 and how to properly make an emergency call. Please review the following tips and share them with family members:

- Call from a landline whenever possible. That way, the physical address associated with the phone is provided to 9-1-1 by the telephone service provider, which is especially important in cases where the caller is unable to speak due to a medical event.
- Listen carefully to the call taker's questions and provide detailed information as it is requested.
- Attempt to speak as clearly and as calmly as possible.
- If in doubt as to whether someone is in distress or something is suspicious, call 9-1-1.
- Make sure your children know your home address and teach them how and when to use 9-1-1.
- Create a safety profile in a system such as Smart911.com to provide relevant information about you and your family to emergency responders.

To sign up for landline service, call Wheat State at 800-442-6835.



Sign Up For Wheat State's AutoPay Today!

Enroll in AutoPay today and receive a coupon good for up to \$95 off a High Speed Internet Gear Kit and Installation!*

Safe, secure... and convenient. Just return this Authorization Agreement form and then sit back and relax.

Got questions? Call us today at 800-442-6835.

It's beyond easy. Your Wheat State phone bill is paid every month—on time—by automatic withdrawals from your bank account.

*Coupon must be used within 30 days of enrollment in AutoPay. This coupon cannot be combined with any other special offers.

Here's how it works:

- Your phone bill is mailed to you each month.
- The amount due is deducted automatically from your bank account or charged to your credit card around the 10th of the month.
- The amount deducted is shown on your bank or credit card statement.

AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number (620) _____ Wheat State Account # _____

Choose one option:

Checking Account Auto Debit

I (we) hereby authorize Wheat State Telephone, hereinafter called COMPANY, to initiate debit entries to my (our) checking account indicated and the depository named below, herein called DEPOSITORY, to debit same to such account.

Your Financial Institution Name _____ Date _____

Routing Number _____ Account Number _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

The authority is to remain in full force and effect until COMPANY and DEPOSITORY have received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and manner as to afford COMPANY and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on my request. **PLEASE ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK REQUIRED FOR VERIFICATION.**

Signature _____

Credit Card Auto Charge

Choose one: VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Please return completed form to: Wheat State Telephone • P.O. Box 320 • Udall, Kansas 67146