

GRISWOLD Connections

FALL 2018



We Hope the Coming School Days Add Up to Great Experiences

Griswold Communications is a big supporter of our community's schools and the important work happening inside their classrooms—from solving problems to inspiring creativity. As another new school year has begun, we wish good luck to all the students, parents, and teachers in our service area.

Do you have an internet or Wi-Fi problem to solve? Contact Griswold Communications for the solution.

Contact

Griswold Communications
607 Main Street / PO Box 640
Griswold, IA 51535
Phone: 712-778-2121

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
7:30 am to 12:30 pm and
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Email us at gctc@netins.net

Visit us online at
griswoldcommunications.com



Internet Usage is Growing, Both Around the Globe and Around Your House

By 2020, it's expected there will be 4 billion connected people worldwide, 25+ million apps in use, and 50 trillion GB of data consumed.

Chances are, internet usage has gone up in your house as well, and this may require an upgrade of your internet speed. Listed below are some typical internet activities and the recommended minimum speed for those individual activities to function well. This does not factor in multiple devices being connected at the same time.

- Streaming music, SD = 1 Mbps (Spotify, Pandora (free))
- Streaming music, HD = 2 Mbps (Spotify, Pandora (premium))
- Streaming video, low definition = 3 Mbps
- Streaming video, SD = 5 Mbps
- Streaming video, HD = 10 Mbps
- Streaming video, ultra HD, 4K = 25 Mbps (Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime, YouTube, Facebook)
- Gaming, low resolution = 2 Mbps
- Gaming, high resolution = 10 Mbps
- Game downloads = 100+ Mbps
- Video calls, low resolution = 0.5 Mbps
- Video calls, high resolution = 1.5 Mbps
- Basic browsing, email, etc. = 0.5 Mbps



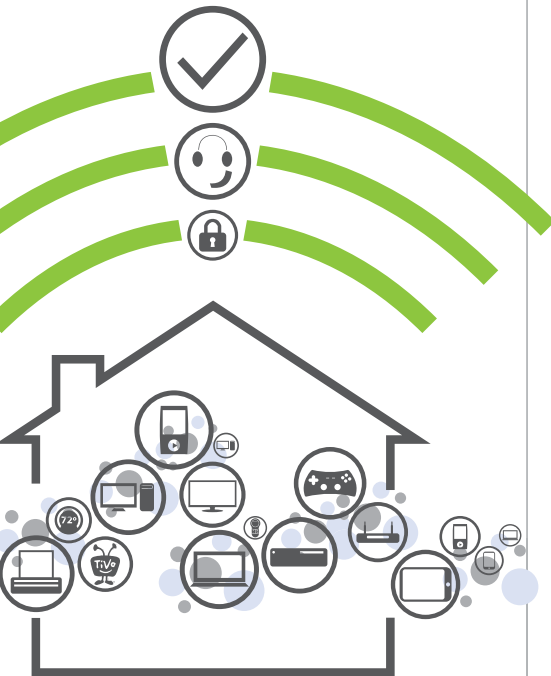
If your blueSURGE internet speed does not seem adequate for your internet activities and number of connected devices, call 778-2121 to discuss a better speed for you. Griswold Communications offers six speeds to choose from—from 10 Mbps up to 1 G.

Tech Home: First Month Free

Tech Home from Griswold Communications offers technology made easy. It's protection for today's life, at home and on the go. Tech Home packages provide world-class security, personal data backup, and help keeping your personal information private. Choose from the Protect, Protect Plus, or Support packages—each package supports computer and mobile devices. Plus, 24/7 tech support for Tech Home is included, and it comes from an Iowa partner company.

Now through September 28, 2018, new Tech Home customers or existing customers that upgrade their Tech Home subscription will receive their first month FREE. Visit griswoldcommunications.com or call Griswold Communications at 778-2121 for more details.

TECH HOME
Technology Made Easy



Facebook's "About This Article" Feature Combats Fake News

Are you having trouble telling the difference between fake news and actual facts in your Facebook News Feed? To help, Facebook is offering the "About This Article" feature.

This feature is easy to spot. As you scroll through posts in your News Feed, news articles will get a small "i" above and to the right of the headline. Tap on it, and you'll see additional information about this news article:

- Name and location of the publisher
- Information from the publisher's Wikipedia page
- Link to follow the publisher's Facebook page
- Links to related articles for additional reading on the topic
- Map showing where the article has been shared
- Total number of people who have shared the article
- Name and profile pictures of your Facebook friends who have shared the article



When any of this information isn't available, Facebook will say that explicitly. For example, Facebook will note if there's no Wikipedia page for the publisher of the article, which can be a valuable piece of context to know. After all, how credible can an article be if the company behind it lacks enough standing to make Wikipedia? 769-2364

Facebook has taken other measures to help combat the spread of fake news in the U.S. It trained its algorithms to deprioritize fake news and clickbait as well as articles shared by individuals who post at extremely high frequencies. It also cut off fake news sites' ad revenue and blocked advertisements created by Pages that share misinformation.

In a blog post, Facebook said, "We'll continue to listen to people's feedback and work with publishers to provide people easy access to the contextual information that helps people decide which stories to read, share, and trust, and to improve the experiences people have on Facebook."

Griswold Communications encourages you to "Like" and "Follow" us on Facebook to see our posts in your News Feed and get our company updates.

It's Important to Teach Young Children About Calling 911

In a medical emergency during which the adult in the home blacks out or is otherwise incapable of calling for help, a young child's ability to call 911 could be lifesaving. Do the children in your family know how and when to make that call?

Review this list of strategies to help prepare children for emergencies:

- Most experts suggest teaching kids how to call 911 at around 4 years old, but you may need to start earlier in cases where a parent has a serious medical condition.
- Consider posting a cheat sheet in an easy-to-find place with information like pictures of first responders, the numbers 9-1-1, and your home address.
- Role-play 911 calls with your children, and prep them for the questions they will likely hear from a dispatcher such as, "911, what is your emergency?" Remind them that if they ever need to call 911, not to hang up and to stay on the line until help arrives.
- Talk to your children about opening the door to first responders.
- If your home only has a cell phone, keep in mind that a child will have to locate your cell phone (which could be anywhere), unlock it, enter a passcode or tap on the word "Emergency," find the phone icon, get to the keypad, enter 911, and then tap on Call or Send. That's a long list of steps for a child, especially during the stress of an emergency.
- In light of the challenges of a child finding and calling from a cell phone, consider having a landline phone in your home. It's much easier for a child to use, and landlines make it possible for dispatchers to automatically identify your address without having to be told it by your child. 767-2570

Griswold Communications cares about the well-being of our customers and wants your family to be prepared for emergencies. We find that many of our customers don't have a phone plugged in even though they have phone service. We understand not using it and the annoyance of telemarketers and robocalls, but in an emergency situation it could save a life.



September is for Celebrating Spuds

Did you know September is National Potato Month? It's the perfect time to check out different varieties of potatoes and maybe try a few new potato recipes.

The potato is one of America's favorite vegetables, and we eat an average of about 110 pounds per person per year. Potatoes are grown in 30 states, with the top growers in Idaho and Washington.

Here are a few fun historical facts:

- The potato chip was invented in 1853 and has been America's number one snack food for more than 50 years.
- While ambassador to France, Benjamin Franklin attended a banquet where the fare was nothing but potatoes, prepared in 20 different ways.
- Thomas Jefferson gets the credit for introducing French fries to America when he served them at a White House dinner.
- Vincent Van Gogh painted four still-life canvases devoted entirely to the potato.
- Origins of the word "spud" can be traced to the instrument used to dig potatoes from the ground—the spade. 778-2092

You'll find recipe inspiration at www.potatogoodness.com/potato-recipes.



Happy National Good Neighbor Day

National Good Neighbor Day is celebrated on September 28. Its goal is to raise awareness of the important role good neighbors play in building strong, thriving communities. In honor of the day, do something nice in your neighborhood — surprise a family with home-baked cookies or offer to help an elderly resident with yardwork.

Since Griswold Communications is a local provider, our neighbors are also our customers, employees, and friends. We have lots to celebrate!

Hidden Number Contest

We have hidden randomly selected phone numbers throughout this newsletter. If you find your phone number in *italics* anywhere in this newsletter, please call our office at 712-778-2121 by September 28, 2018 to receive a \$5.00 bill credit.

Look now to see if your phone number is hiding in any articles. Good luck and happy reading!

TED Talks Offer Lifetimes of Wisdom in a Few Minutes

Have you met TED yet? TED (www.ted.com) is a free and convenient way for anyone of any age to keep learning through engaging content from inspired thinkers, usually delivered in the form of talks lasting 18 minutes or less.

In 1984, the Technology, Entertainment and Design (TED) conference began to build its global community, welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. TED believes in the power of ideas to change attitudes and lives for the better. 763-4403

You can explore a wide range of subject matter at www.TED.com/talks. Search by topic or video duration, and sort by categories including Newest, Most Viewed, Jaw-Dropping, Funny, Inspiring, and Ingenious. Here's a sampling of some of the most-viewed TED talks:

- Your body language shapes who you are
- How great leaders inspire action
- The power of introverts
- How to speak so that people want to listen
- This is what happens when you rely to spam email
- What makes a good life? Lessons from the longest study on happiness
- How to spot a liar
- Grit: The power of passion and perseverance
- Questions no one knows the answers to

The website also includes TED Books, an Ideas Blog, and the option to sign up for daily or weekly emails containing featured talks.

Are you experiencing buffering when you watch TED Talks or other videos? That's a sign you probably need a faster internet connection. Call us at 712-778-2121 to learn about our current internet speeds and prices.

