



West River
Cooperative
Telephone
Company

Calling on You

SIMPLIFY CALVING SEASON

Calving is right around the corner, that's if you haven't started already! Make this time of year easier and less stressful by installing a monitoring system. This system can be installed inside a barn or near your corrals. Once installed, you can monitor what is going on outside from the comforts of your home or even away from home. The monitoring system can be viewed on your home computer, TV or on any wireless device 456-2940 such as a smartphone, laptop or tablet.

WRCTC offers a DVR (digital video recorder), multiple 788-2908 outdoor and night cameras and installation options for you to choose from. The DVR allows you to record and view what's happened in the past. Call us today at 605-244-5213 for a free quote and let us help you during this stressful time of year!

ASK US ABOUT OUR MONITORING SYSTEMS

BEWARE!

With tax season upon us, scammers are out in full force. Make sure that you're being cautious about clicking links and pop-ups in emails and web browsers. Many messages you will see from scammers have a 374-3160 time constraint and say something along the lines of "CLICK HERE NOW- URGENT", "Call this number" or they may flash a warning informing you that if you exit, there will be repercussions. These fabricated messages lure people in every day and leave them with malicious software on their devices. Beware and be secure.




YOUR RESPONSIBILITY/

- Be suspicious of emails containing "urgent" requests for personal information, multiple spelling mistakes, and poor grammar.
- Do not open links sent through suspicious emails, instant messages, or text messages.
- Avoid filling out any forms in email messages that ask for personal information.
- Always use a secure website when submitting credit card or other sensitive information via the Internet. Cybercriminals are now able to spoof "https://", so enter website addresses manually to avoid malicious links.

PHISHING/


Cybercriminals will use every method available to gain valuable information from you. That's why you need to know about phishing. Phishing employs social engineering tactics meant to defraud you with the ultimate goal of using your stolen information to gain access to your identity and even your money.

PHISHING: The use of email messages, websites, and text messages laced with malicious software that, once downloaded to your personal computer, steals your personal identification information.

 **Keeping It Real**

While running errands, you receive an "urgent" text message from your bank; your account has been compromised which may result in a loss of funds if not immediately addressed. The message asks you to click on a link in order to change your password and PIN. You notice the name of your bank is misspelled as are other words in the message.

SPEAR PHISHING: The use of targeted phishing tactics which seek to defraud specific organizations or users of confidential or sensitive data through email spoofs and fraudulent hyperlinks.


 **Keeping It Real**

You receive hundreds of messages each day. One in particular catches your eye as the sender isn't someone you've ever had contact with before and the subject line is written in broken English. When you open the email, there's a brief note concerning your organization and a request for immediate action through a link. When you hover over the link, the caption actually contains a strange URL.

PHISHING


BE SECURE

WHALING: The use of phishing and spear phishing tactics to defraud prominent high-ranking individuals such as senior executives and members of leadership teams; also known as "The Big Catch."

 **Keeping It Real**

As Associate Director of your section, it isn't uncommon for you to receive messages directly from your senior leader; however, this message in particular strikes you as odd. She's asked you to open and fill out the forms compressed in a .zip file attached to the message and submit them through a specified online site. The directions are vague and there are glaring grammatical errors within the message including a typo in her own name.

A phishing attack has three characteristics: a **LURE**, a **HOOK**, and a **CATCH**.




LURE/

An enticement delivered through email encouraging you to follow a spoofed hyperlink to a malicious website — also known as a **hook**. It could also be in the form of an executable file hidden in an attachment that you are tempted to open, thereby launching a malicious process on your computer.

60%

of targeted phishing attacks used the name of a financial institution to gain access.¹




HOOK/

A malicious website, provided within the emailed lure, designed to look and feel like a legitimate site. The **hook** asks you to disclose personal information once you reach it.

91%

of targeted attack campaigns use spear phishing tactics.²



CATCH/

The originator of the phishing message uses the information collected from the **lure** and **hook** to steal your funds and identity.

Phishing and social engineering attacks resulted in the compromise of over **552 million** identities.³



Stay on top of your Cybersecurity. Protect your personal and business devices from costly and 376-3402 malicious viruses, ransomware and identity theft for ONLY \$5 per month. With VIPRE, you are able to download protection on three Windows devices. Call the office at 605-244-5213 for more information.

West River Cooperative Telephone Company (WRCTC) Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) Notification

WRCTC and its affiliate, West River Cable Television, strive to meet the needs of customers by introducing new telecommunications and communications-related services and products and by making improvements to existing offerings. Your account information or Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI), contained within our database, helps us identify customers who might benefit from these new services and enhancements. WRCTC and its affiliate may share and use data on the calling features and plans to which you subscribe, the charges associated with those plans, the telephone numbers called, and the length of telephone calls, to tailor service offerings to your individual needs.

WRCTC and its affiliate will NOT share this data with any outside source except as necessary to provide the service(s) to which you already subscribe, or if legally required to do so.

You have the right under federal law to protect the confidentiality of your account information and CPNI and to

restrict the use of this data, and we have a responsibility to protect your data. To restrict the use of your CPNI data identified in this notice, you can call the business office by dialing 777 or 605-244-5213, email us at westriver@sdplains.com (please include your name and account number), stop by our office in Bison or return the bottom portion of this notice. You can request that WRCTC not use your CPNI data at any time. However, if the request 866-4644 is not received within 30 days of this notice, your CPNI data may be shared and utilized until a notice is received.

Your denial for WRCTC to use your CPNI will not affect the quality of your service or have any effect on the products and services to which you currently subscribe.

Your decision 257-2838 on the use of CPNI by WRCTC will remain valid until you change it, which can be done at anytime by calling our business office at 777 or 244-5213.

Scholarship Reminder!



There is still time to get your scholarship applications in! Applications for the \$500 WRCTC/ Grand Electric scholarship must be postmarked by March 6, 2020! For more info and an application, please visit us at www.wrctc.coop. Questions? Please call Rachel at 777 or 605-244-5213.

CPNI Notice

I **do not** consent to the use of my Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI).

Name on account: _____

Telephone number(s): _____

Signature of authorized contact for the account: _____

Dated: _____

Return to: West River Cooperative Telephone Company • PO Box 39 • Bison, SD 57620

Find Your Phone

Ten telephone numbers were hidden in the last newsletter. Those members who hunted and found their number were: David Capp, Nisland; Beverly Joy Worm, Prairie City; Ronda Cordell, Camp Crook and Darnell Boeckel, Lemmon. Hidden in this issue are ten new numbers. If you find YOUR number, all you have to do is notify our office. The \$10 will then be deducted off your telephone bill. New connect numbers do not count. **Deadline is March 20, 2020.**

New WRCTC Members

Bison, Meadow, Sorum

Deneui, Mike	244-6639
Howey, Geraldine	old: 244-5569 new: 244-5774

Lemmon

Allen, Spencer & Leah	701-376-2669
Berkenbile, William & Rita	374-8049
Schackow, Robert & Benita	374-4547

Town Residence

Students ages 16-17: Take a FREE Trip to Washington, D.C.

Join students from across the U.S. for the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Tour to WASHINGTON, D.C. on June 6-10, 2020! To apply for this trip, please submit a 500-word essay on the following topic:

In your opinion, how can we as a rural community have 244-7157 a bigger voice in America?

All essays must be typed and include a cover sheet which states the title of the essay, the entrant's name and the school they attend. **Essays must be postmarked by March 6, 2020.**

Please submit essays to: WRCTC, Attn: Rachel Eggebo, PO Box 39, Bison, SD 57620 OR email your essay to reggebo@wrctc.coop
Questions? Call 777 or 605-244-5213.

Students must be 16 or 17 years of age at the time of the tour and a 375-3314 dependent of a WRCTC member to be eligible.

Get to know your BATTERY BACKUP

- The battery backup needs to be plugged into AC power at all times. If it is not 797-4655 plugged in, your services will not work.
- If both lights are green on the battery backup, everything should be 972-4545 working properly. If there are no green lights and one red, please call the office and a technician will be out to fix the issue with the battery backup.
- If your Internet or TV is not working, the battery backup is the first thing you should check. Make sure both lights are green. If both lights are green and the Internet is still out, call our tech support team at 1-888-464-9513.
- The battery backup is required to provide you with phone, TV and Internet.

