

Grow Your Capital Credit Refund

What other telephone company pays you back?

Not a single one we can think of.

So go ahead, build your bank account, sign up today!



A Company That Pays You Back

As a member of your local telephone cooperative, you can grow your capital credit refund by choosing the telecommunications services provided by VTCL.

Everyone has a stake in the success of a cooperative. When VTCL makes a profit, you make a profit too!

The more services you use, the more you get back!



Caller

Official Newsletter published for subscribers of VALLEY TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, Inc. July 2007

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



There's a storm coming!

Well, maybe not a storm, but it certainly is a major upheaval in the communications world. Telecommunications technology is undergoing the most significant transition since the dial telephone in the late 1920's.

ability to customize channels for our members. The new equipment is relatively inexpensive – as video equipment goes – so community users will be able to participate in local sports, community affairs meetings, religious programming and programs of local interest, such as cooking, hunting, fishing, etc. It is a marvelous and useful technology that is right around the corner.

There are other services – like security – that can be developed down the road as the technology develops.

There's an exciting technology world coming, and Valley Telephone members will be able to enjoy it all!

Telephone networks are turning into computer networks, and this will have a widespread impact on users throughout the country and beyond. These new telecommunications networks will carry information in a faster and much more efficient manner than today which will enable companies like Valley Telephone to offer more services to our members.

Our members have already been able to experience the ever faster Internet access services offered as DSL and Internet access to our home fiber customers. The speeds will continue to go up, and the pricing will stay about the same and even decrease with some offerings.

One of the most exciting new services is video programming which will offer an extremely high quality picture with an

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El Sauz Members The Time Has Come!



El Sauz members, we have good news to announce. You will be able to call and be called by McAllen, Edinburg, and Mission (La Joya) on a toll free basis effective June 21, 2007.

Since you already pay a monthly service charge per line of \$3.50 for residence and \$7.00 for business on your Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS), there is no change in rate for adding these additional exchanges.

If you have questions on ELCS, call your customer service department at 800-446-2031 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**VTCL Offices
Will Be
Closed
Wednesday,
July 4th**

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 103
Raymondville, TX



LIFELINE & LINK UP

Every person in America should have access to quality affordable telecommunications service. This principle of "Universal Service" has been the goal of the telecommunications industry for decades. Valley Telephone Cooperative offers home telephone assistance programs. These programs, referred to as Link Up and Lifeline, help eligible people establish and maintain telephone service.

LINK UP can save eligible consumers, 50% of the initial charges to hook up primary telephone service or \$30, whichever is less.

LIFELINE applies only to primary local telephone service in your home. It lowers the monthly cost of telephone service significantly. An individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Medicaid
- Food Stamps
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Health benefits coverage under the State Child Health Plan (CHIPS)

In addition, you may be eligible if your household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. You can apply for Lifeline & Linkup through Valley Telephone Cooperative.

3 WAYS TO PAY Your Consolidated Bill



Pay Online at www.vtci.net

- Save postage and time
- Safe & secure payment site



Use Your Credit Card

- Completely secure
- You're out of town or don't have time to mail your payment



Use Auto Bank Pay

- Perfect for today's busy lifestyle
- Never have a late payment again

We Want You! To Tell Us



- What are your telecommunications needs?
- How can we make the customer experience better?
- What is your member-owned company doing right?

We Are Listening
800-446-2031
 Still "Owned by Those We Serve"



480 South 6th Street
 Raymondville, TX 78580
 Phone: (800) 446-2031
 Fax: (956) 642-1051
<http://www.vtci.net>

Dave Osborn, General Manager

Board of Directors

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Business Office Hours
 Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 Closed Saturday & Sunday
 (800) 446-2031

Internet Support Hours
 Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.
 Saturday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
 Sunday: 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
 (800) 687-4202

Repairs
 Monday-Sunday: (800) 292-7596

AROUND OUR EXCHANGES



COMING THIS JULY
33rd Annual
Port Mansfield
Fishing Tournament
 July 26 - 29, 2007

Information on rules, regulations, and registration are available online at www.portmansfield.us, under tournaments, or call the Port Mansfield Chamber at 956-944-2354.



Hurricane Season is Here BE PREPARED

Governor's Division of Emergency Management Hurricane Preparedness Guidelines Preparing for Hurricane Season: June 1-Nov. 30

Residents of Texas Gulf Coast **EVACUATION ZONES** should **BEGIN NOW** by making an evacuation plan, preparing an emergency kit and learning evacuation routes well in advance.



Special Transportation Registry

If you have special transportation needs, register by dialing 2-1-1: Gulf Coast residents with special transportation needs (including those who are disabled or medically fragile) who live in evacuation zones and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation should register for a ride in advance by dialing 2-1-1. The 2-1-1 Special Transportation Registry must be dialed **IN ADVANCE**. Do not wait until a storm is in the Gulf to register for assistance.

If you need transportation to evacuate for any reason, register with 2-1-1: If you do not have a car or other vehicle, and you cannot get a ride with friends, neighbors or family, register **IN ADVANCE** for a ride by dialing 2-1-1.

Evacuation zone information: If you want to register for a ride and you want to check if your residence is in an evacuation zone, dial 2-1-1.

Hurricane Preparedness tips on the web:
 Governor's Division of Emergency Management Web Site: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem
 FEMA Web Site: www.Ready.gov Red Cross Web Site: www.redcross.org

La Oficina del Gobernador de Texas - Administración de Emergencia

Directrices para Huracanes Preparadose para la temporada de huracanes junio 1 a noviembre 30

Los residentes de **zonas de evacuación** de la Costa del Golfo de Texas **deberán empezar ahora** a hacer un plan de evacuación, preparando un equipo de emergencia y aprendiendo bien las rutas de evacuación por adelantado.



Registro especial para el traslado

Si usted tiene necesidades especiales con su traslado regístrese llamado al 2-1-1: Los residentes de la Costa del Golfo con necesidades especiales del traslado (incluyendo los que son incapacitados o médicamente frágil) que viven en zonas de evacuación y no tienen amigos o familiares para ayudar en la evacuación deben registrarse para su traslado en adelantado llamado al 2-1-1. El registro con 2-1-1 se debe hacer **por adelantado**. No espere hasta que una tempestad esté en el Golfo para registrarse para la ayuda.

Si usted necesita transporte para evacuar por cualquiera razón, regístrese con 2-1-1: Si usted no tiene un coche ni otro vehículo, y usted no puede obtener transporte con amigos, vecinos o familiares, regístrese **por adelantado** para su traslado llamando al 2-1-1.

Información sobre la zona de evacuación: Si usted quiere registrarse para el transporte y quiere verificar que su residencia es localizada en una zona de la evacuación, llame a 2-1-1.

Para mas información sobre la Preparación para un Huracán en el Internet:
www.listo.gov/ www.cruzrojaamericana.org/ www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

HELP SAVE LIVES

Call Your 9-1-1 Coordinator And Provide VTCI With Your 9-1-1 Physical Address

Please contact your County 9-1-1 Coordinator and ask for a 9-1-1 physical address. This address is necessary for Emergency Personnel to locate your location in case of an emergency. To find your 9-1-1 County Coordinator contact the VTCI business office at 800-446-2031 for more information.

FOR REPAIRS

To report trouble on your telephone line contact VTCI's repair department direct Monday through Sunday at 800-292-7596