

UPGRADE YOUR INTERNET SPEED IF... (5 REASONS)

Here are 5 reasons/situations that would warrant upgrading your Internet speed:

1. Do you like to watch Netflix? (or Hulu, Amazon Prime, etc.)

If you have gotten into streaming movies and TV shows online like millions of others, then you have a need for a fast Internet connection if you want your movies and shows to play at their best. As screens get larger and better, the media files for streaming grow as they get packed with more data to fill up those high resolution screens. Add to that the likelihood that your household may be streaming multiple shows at a time and it all adds up to needing faster Internet for the best streaming experience.

2. Do you have more than 5 devices connected? More than 10? More than 15?

The number of Internet-connected devices found in each household continues to grow. Now, people have smart phones, smart TVs, smart bluray players, tablets, home monitoring systems, Amazon Echos, Google Homes, game systems, connected thermostats, wifi lightbulbs, and more. The more Internet-connected devices you have, the faster the speed (bandwidth) you need to feed all of these devices. Think of a water supply and how many faucets you have. While you don't expect them all to be on all the time, there will be busy times when everyone in your house is online and you don't want everything to bog down because you don't have the speed.

3. Do you like to download movies, music, TV shows, games or other programs?

If you like downloading movies, TV shows, songs, games, pictures, documents, or other computer files on a regular basis, a faster Internet connection could really help you. Downloading is perhaps the number one application where the time you are waiting is directly tied to the speed of your connection. If you like (or need) to download files often, then you probably want your downloads to go as fast as possible so you are waiting as little as possible. A faster Internet speed may be the best way to speed up the downloads and cut down on waiting.

4. Have you been on the same Internet plan for more than 5 years?

Five years ago, the Internet was different -- there weren't as many applications that required faster speeds, so the Internet speeds from most companies were in line with the demands. Things have changed in the last 5 years. Even if you still do mostly the same things with your Internet, it is likely that those things require more bandwidth than they used to because more data is being packed into them. Websites have more content, videos are higher resolution, music plays at a higher bitrate, media download files are larger, etc.

5. Have you checked your plan price with current pricing lately?

You might be surprised at what you can get today for the same money you are paying. You might get a much faster speed for little to no increase in your bill. While you may not "think" you need more speed, you will likely be surprised at how much better your devices and Internet experience is overall with a faster speed.

OCTOBER IS CO-OP MONTH!

TCC is celebrating National Cooperative Month in October, along with 40,000 other cooperative businesses serving more than 120 million people nationwide. **Cooperatives Commit** is the theme of this year's celebration, spotlighting the countless ways cooperatives like TCC meet the needs of their members and communities.

This year's theme is right on target, because Co-Ops commit in so many ways to meeting the needs of their members and building stronger communities. TCC provides high-speed Internet, phone and cable TV to over 7300 member-owners in its serving area. TCC continues to invest in its fiber optic infrastructure, giving our rural communities access to the same, some times better, services they have in metro areas. Having the high-speed broadband backbone is key to the economic development of our serving area. Technology not only drives our industry, it provides the ability to run our businesses, keeps us in touch with our family and neighbors, educates our children, manages our healthcare and provides jobs for our communities. While technology will continue to change, our commitment to you will not.

As we continue to look toward the future, you can be confident that we will continue to explore new ways to help our member owners and our community and we Thank You for your continued support.

▶ OPEN HOUSES

See our offices, talk with our staff! Enjoy some refreshments! Bring your tech questions and "Ask the Pros" (part of TCC Classes)

- Wednesday, October 25th from Noon - 4 pm
Galesville Library Community Room
- Thursday, October 26th from 8 am - 4 pm
TCC office in Strum (Hwy 10 & 5th Ave N)
- Friday, October 27th from 8 am - 4 pm
TCC office in Independence (downtown)

▶ PRIZE DRAWINGS

Stop in all month long to sign up for prizes. We're giving away TCC Gift Cards, TCC swag and a pair of Wisconsin Badger Football game tickets. (one entry per membership please)



TRI-COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE

Strum & Independence
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Galesville Location
Wednesday Noon - 4 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



WWW.TCCPRO.NET 800.831.0610



Strum Office
417 5th Ave. N
P.O. Box 578
Strum, WI 54770
715-695-2691

Independence Office
23669 Washington St.
Independence, WI 54747
715-985-3101



TRI-COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CO-OP
www.TCCPRO.net 800.831.0610



TECH HOME - AN OVERVIEW

TCC now includes Anti-Virus, Cloud Backup, and a Password Manager with TCC Internet. The whole package is called "Tech Home." These programs are not downloaded to your devices automatically -you need to request and download them --- but the process is easy and these programs are really nice to have! They protect your data and devices from viruses, hacking, crashes and accidental deleting. If you have not downloaded your Tech Home Products yet, here's an overview we hope will convince you that they are worth it!



Internet Security

- Protects you from viruses, spyware, malware, bloatware, ransomware, hacking, etc.
- Other programs protect you from some/many threats but not all types of threats
- Includes 24-7 Live, Midwest Support -- no other program will offer this
- Includes a \$100 guarantee on their product -- no other program will offer this
- Uses the "Bit Defender" anti-virus engine, ranked #1 for anti-malware and anti-bloatware
- Mobile version includes anti-theft features in case you lose your phone or it gets stolen
- Fully automated -- even makes sure your Windows updates are being done!

Cloud Backup

- Includes a generous 50 Gigabytes of space -- upgradable to 250 Gigabytes!
- Automated backup so you don't have to do anything -- just set it and forget it!
- Configure common file types (quick method) or specific folders to back up (custom setup)
- Includes "iFolder" on your desktop for easy drag-n-drop backup/sharing
- 256-bit encryption (same as banks use) for the best security of your files

Password Manager

- Stores and fills in usernames and passwords to all your sign-in based websites
- Imports your existing stored usernames and passwords so getting started is a breeze!
- Automatically asks you to store passwords for every new sign-in page you visit
- Includes "iWallet" so you can also store information for other online services like your frequent flyer miles, rental car information, rewards club information, birthdays, etc.
- Uses 256-bit encryption (same as banks use) so your information is very secure
- Keeps passwords safe from others you share your computer with using a "master" password

▶ Getting Started

Install only the Tech Home products you want. Visit www.tcctechhome.com, complete the form and watch for an email to activate your Tech Home account. Once active, you'll get an email with all your Download links to download and install the products on your devices.

TCC TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

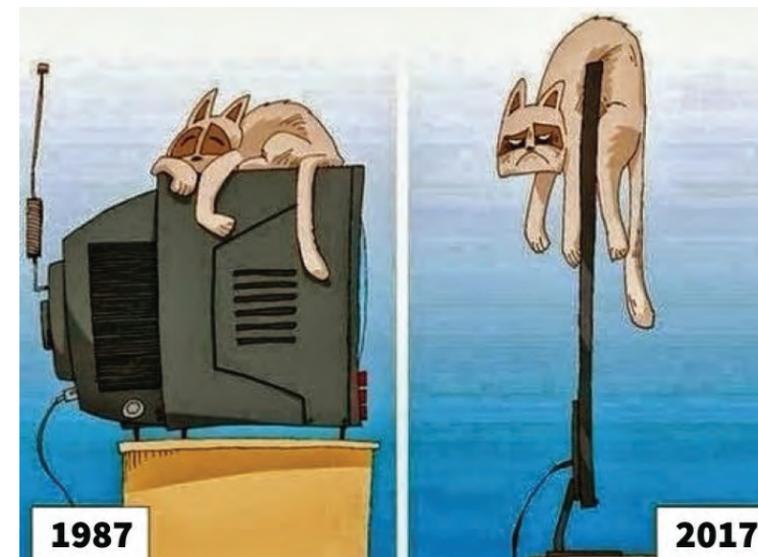
We have a number of classes in October and November! Our classes are always FREE and open to anyone in the community. See the schedule of classes below:

- iPad Basics:** Thur., Oct. 5th, 10 AM at the Strum office
- Ebay/Craigslist:** Thur., Oct. 5th, 2 PM - Arcadia Library
Thur., Oct. 5th, 5 PM - Osseo Library
- Tech Home:** Thur., Oct. 12th, 3 PM and 6 PM at the Strum office
Thur., Oct. 19th, 3 PM and 6 PM at the Independence office
- "Ask The Pros":** Wed., Oct. 25th, 1 PM at the Galesville Library Community Room
Thur., Oct. 26th, 10 AM at the Strum office
Fri., Oct. 27th, 10 AM at the Independence office
- Skype/Facetime:** Thur., Nov. 2nd, 5 PM at the Osseo Library
Thur., Nov. 9th, 2 PM at the Galesville Library Community Room
Thur., Nov. 9th, 7 PM at the Whitehall Library



Sign up today! Visit www.tccpro.net/tcc-classes or call 715-695-2810!

AS TECHNOLOGY KEEPS CHANGING, WE JUST HAVE TO ADAPT



There's an old saying "the only thing that doesn't change is change itself." How true in the tech world! Things are changing - even when you don't think (or realize) they are. More and more devices connect to the Internet. Plus, devices are more sophisticated and the data they handle has gotten bigger to do more things on larger screens with higher resolutions. Modems and routers have to be able to connect to so many more devices, both new and old, and they don't always work properly.

Adapting may mean updating your programs and/or your devices and how you use them to keep pace with technology OR it may mean accepting the limitations on your older devices if you don't update as they will increasingly be unable to do what they used to.