**From the Broadband Committee: Advantages of our Fiber Network**

**SPEED & BANDWIDTH**

A fiber connection provides a reliable, state-of-the-art, high-speed connection and unlike satellite or wireless, has almost no signal loss, interference from obstructions, or speed loss due to high data usage on the local network. Businesses and services assume that all homes have a high-speed internet connection and present their material accordingly with videos embedded in pages and high-definition TV and movies. Online banking, shopping, or government transactions require the stable connection that you can count on with fiber. The amount of speed and bandwidth demanded by businesses and others will continue to increase.

**NO DATA CAPS**

We do not have a data cap and will not slow your speed or have additional charges based on your monthly usage (unlike many satellite and wireless providers). The increased bandwidth demands discussed above are eating through data plans at an ever-faster rate. So not having a data cap will be an increasingly valuable feature.

**SAVE MONEY BY SWITCHING TO STREAMING TV & MOVIES**

Having fiber can provide cost savings if you currently use a satellite TV service. Streaming TV over the internet can be considerably less expensive than most satellite TV services. Also, streaming services are increasingly offering exclusive shows, movies, and special features not available through satellite providers.

**SERVICE DURING POWER OUTAGES**

Our fiber network has an advantage during power outages. Our network equipment has a long-term backup generator, unlike cell towers, and our hut will continue to put out a signal during outages.  In most instances, if you have a generator or a small back-up battery in your home, you can continue to use your internet and phone connection over the fiber.  You can also use your cell phone over wifi calling during this time (or all the time for possible cost savings by changing to a lower data cap cell plan).

**INCREASED HOME VALUE**

High-speed fiber service adds significantly to a home’s value in the housing market.  Most people see this as an essential service. In a marketplace where the majority of households will have state of the art, fiber-to-the-home internet connections, homes without this service will be at a disadvantage.

**THIS IS NEW SALEM’S NETWORK**

We are the New Salem MLP, a not-for-profit, working with other not-for-profits to bring this service to our town. Most providers have to maintain high profit margins to satisfy their investors.  We only answer to our subscribers (aka the people of New Salem) and will continue to offer the best service at the lowest cost possible.

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