



The Silent Workhorses during COVID-19

Technology and internet are no longer taken for granted or considered for entertainment purposes only in homes, especially now. Technology, the internet, and internet service providers (ISPs) are garnering a bit more welcome and regard as silent “workhorses” during COVID-19 and in a global call for people to social distance.

There’s a much higher level of dependence and responsibility in these trusty workhorses for the *Continuity of Things*— for people to work from home, kids to continue their schooling, and for others to have access to products and services online. Whether it’s for food or other products to be delivered, take-out meals scheduled for a “curbside” pick up, schoolwork to be submitted, healthcare received via tele-medicine, and many other things, the workhorses silently keep working and the world turning.

The enormous amount of information and complex data is sent, received or simply “looked up” on computers, laptops, tablets and smart phones, throughout a day, rides on the strong backs of technology, internet and internet service providers, like RC Technologies. This team is essential in transporting important, and at times critical, information between government entities, health-care systems, emergency response personnel, schools and businesses on a local, state, federal, and even global level.

Though— there are no workhorses without someone in the saddle, that “someone” is YOU. Your patronage as a RC Technologies cooperative member assists in the delivery of the highest quality of internet and communication possible to your area and local rural communities with the local support you deserve!



A Monthly Newsletter for patrons of RC Technologies
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Ways to Pay Your Bill

During this time of physical distancing and COVID-19, many people are thinking of different ways to pay their bill. Below are some ways you can safely and securely pay your bill without leaving the comfort of your home.

Pay by Bank Draft (ACH)

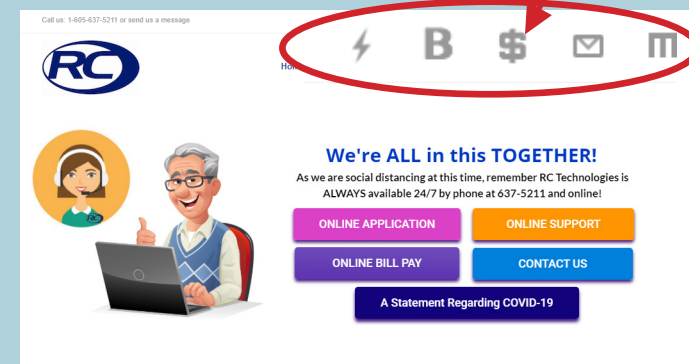
You can sign up for automatic bank draft by using your bank routing and your checking account numbers. With this option, your monthly bill can be deducted from your bank account automatically.

Pay by Phone

Give us a call at 637-5211 to pay your bill over the phone. We will verify your identity, confirm your monthly bill amount and give you options on how to pay.

Online Bill Pay

1. Go to www.tnics.com.
2. Look for the Bill Pay icon in the upper right hand corner of RC Technologies web page and click.



3. Underneath the Sign In, click on the **Don't have an account? Register here**
4. Enter the Invoice Number and the Amount Due from your most recent invoice.
5. Next, you would enter your email, create a username and password. Once registration has been completed, a confirmation email will be sent to you.

If you need any assistance, call 637-5211, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and a customer service representative can assist you.

Video Call like a **PRO**



Some of you may have already used video calling (or conferencing) for work, school or have a face to face visit with family during this time. Although nothing can replace being with friends and loved ones physically, connecting through a video call is the next best thing.

Download a Video Conferencing App

Start by downloading a video calling app to a smart device. Below are a few commonly used video chat/calling/conferencing apps.

Create a Meeting | Invite | Accept

Basic accounts are free. Video chat and call apps allow you to make a video call instantly. Conferencing apps require a link and password to create a meeting place for a video call. The host of the meeting can admit/accept or decline people entering into the video call.

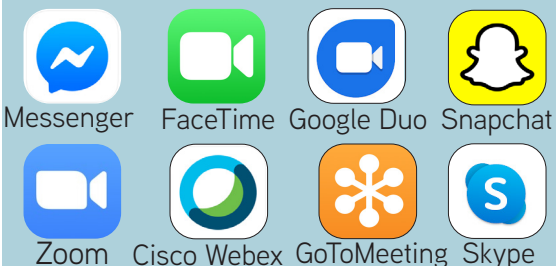
Avoid Video Call Information on Social Media

Send video call meeting information privately through the app, an email or text. Placing video call information on social media can invite a very large network of unwanted guests.

Know Your Host

Just like anything you do online, know where the video call or meeting invite is coming from. Always confirm with the person who sent the invitation that it was them who sent it.

Common Video Chat/Call/Conferencing Apps



RC would like to honor...

Class of 2020

(we know it's been tough)

Moms and others

who have
mothered someone
Happy Mother's Day!

The Brave Men & Women

who gave the ultimate sacrifice, we honor you!
Memorial Day 2020

**In recognition of those brave men and women,
RC Technologies offices will be closed
on Monday, May 25th, Memorial Day.**

Ways To \$ave Money

1. Disconnect Your Landline

Some people are still paying for two voice services: cell phone service and their home phone service. With changes in regulations, a home phone is no longer required with internet. Disconnecting your home phone is one way to save money. *Digital Voice*, an alternative voice service with unlimited long distance within the lower 48 states, may be an option.

2. Stream TV

Streaming TV can also save you money. All you need to stream is an internet connection, a streaming device or a Smart TV. Streaming devices, like an Amazon Fire Stick, Roku or Chromecast, can be purchased for under \$50 and found at many retailers.

Interested? Call RC Technologies at 637-5211, we will be happy to answer any questions for you. Services not available to all areas. Some restrictions may apply.

STREAMING TV 101



As traditional cable costs continue to rise, more people are deciding to “cut the cord” to traditional cable services for streaming services.

What is Streaming?

Streaming is a term to describe the delivery method of receiving video over the internet in real-time.

How to Get Started

If you are considering taking the plunge, first you need to make sure you have adequate internet speed to have a good experience and no buffering which is determined by how many screens/devices you want to stream on and what type of programming you plan on streaming (SD, HD or 4K).

Next, you'll need a streaming device. Some newer TVs come with streaming apps built inside them, but if you don't have this type of TV, you can purchase a streaming device like a Roku, Fire Stick, Chromecast or use a gaming console like an Xbox or PlayStation to stream.

Common Streaming Services

Netflix - Most-known streaming service

- 30 Day Free Trial
- No contracts. Plans can be upgraded, downgraded or cancel at any time
- Choose from 3 different plans depending on the number of devices you want to stream on
- Basic plan starts at \$8.99/month and go up
- Watch on a streaming device, TV, laptop, tablet or phone
- For more information, go to <https://www.netflix.com/signup>

Hulu - Another popular streaming service

- First Month Free for New Subscribers
- Choose from 3 plans (Ad-supported or No Ads)
- Plans start at \$5.99/month (ads included) to \$60.99/month (60+ top channels live and on demand TV from an ad-supported library)
- Switch plans or cancel at anytime
- To try, go to www.hulu.com/welcome

FuboTV - Huge library, great for sports lovers

- Free 7 Day Trial
- 100+ channels with local sport and news, DVR
- No contracts. Switch or cancel plans anytime
- \$54.99/month
- More info at <https://www.fubo.tv/welcome>



Your Source for All Things RCTv Vol.7 No.5 May 2020

“The Show Must Go On!”

LIVE TV being Broadcast from Homes

The TV industry, and those who make a living doing it, have had to come up with creative and innovative ways to adapt to delivering their product: TV programming, some which is LIVE.

The shift of TV now being broadcast from homes versus from elaborate studios actually has made for better TV.

Video conferencing apps, like Zoom, WebEx and Skype, have given TV viewers an “inside look” into TV personalities’ lives—from their book collection... how they decorate their homes... to their kids personalities.

Giving us comfort knowing their lives are no different from ours. They're real people with the same struggle of balancing work, parenting and their kids getting their online education at home!

Disney+ - Most family-friendly service

- Disney+ promotion: Verizon customers with unlimited data plans could get 12-month FREE trial. After trial, continue subscription for \$6.99/month or cancel before trial ends
- Go to <https://verizonwireless.com/support/disney-faqs> or head to <https://disneyplus.com>
- Watch on a streaming device, TV, laptop, tablet or phone

YouTube TV - Another popular service

- Free Trial - lengthen of trial varies
- No contracts or commitments. Cancel anytime.
- Live TV from 70+ channels with sports and news
- After trial \$49.99/month, 3 streams. Has ads.
- Watch on streaming device, TV, laptop, tablet or phone
- Find out more at tv.youtube.com/welcome

(Amazon) Prime Video - Widely-used service

- 30 day Free Trial - get Prime Video only \$8.99/month
- Prime membership includes some Prime Video channels, originals and other content free for limited time
- Learn more at <https://www.amazon.com/gp/storefront>

Locast - A Non-profit Streaming Service

- A not-for-profit service offering signals over the internet in select US cities
- Local channels to view FREE, has ads for donations
- Watch on streaming device, TV, laptop, tablet or phone
- Select “Sioux Falls” as your city
- To try go online to <https://www.locast.org>

What to Watch this May!

May 1

Trying, Premiere, Apple TV+

"All Nikki and Jason want is a baby—the one thing they can't have. So they decide to adopt. With their dysfunctional friends, screwball families, and chaotic live, will the adoption panel agree that they're ready to be parents?"

(No need to own an Apple TV. AppleTV+ app is also streaming service. \$4.99/month. It can be downloaded to most any device. Learn more at <https://apple.com/apple-tv-plus/>)

Upload, Premiere, (Amazon) Prime Video

"In 2033, people who are near death can be "uploaded" into virtual reality hotels run by 6 tech firms. Cash-strapped Nora lives in Brooklyn and works customer service for the luxurious "Lakeview" digital afterlife. When L.A. party-boy/coder Nathan's self-driving car crashes, his high-maintenance girlfriend uploads him permanently to Nora's VR world. Upload is created by Greg Daniels (The Office).

May 3

4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The Last Dance

Episodes 1-5, Michael Jordan's and the Chicago Bulls quest to a sixth NBA title, ESPN (20)



8 p.m. **Westworld**, HBO (500)

May 4

9 p.m. **Bakeaway Camp with Martha Stewart**, Food Network (88)

10 p.m. **Camp Getaway**, Premiere, Bravo (117)

May 8

8 p.m. **Bering Sea Gold**, Discovery (95)

TBA **In This Together**: A PBS Portrait Story, PBS (11)

May 9

11 a.m. **Celebrity IOU: Melissa McCarthy**, HGTV (90)

May 10 - Mother's Day

9 p.m. **Call Your Mother**, Comedy Central (128)

9 p.m. **I Know This Much Is True**, HBO (500)

May 11

8 p.m. **Celebrity IOU: Rebel Wilson**, HGTV (90)



**Schedules are subject to change.*

May 12

7 p.m. **Happy Days of Garry Marshall**: 2-Hour Special on career of legendary producer of some of the most iconic tv shows: *Happy Days*, *Laverne & Shirley*, *Mork & Mindy*, including memorable movies like *Pretty Women*, *Beaches* and *The Princess Diaries*, ABC (9)

May 20

7 p.m. **Amazing Race**: 2-Hour Premiere, CBS (3)

8 p.m. **Married at First Sight**, Lifetime (80)

8 p.m. **Ultimate Tag**, Season 1, Fox (6/7)

May 21

7 p.m. **Red Nose Day Special: "Celebrity Escape Room"** NBC (5)

7 p.m. **Burden of Truth**, Premiere, CW (17)

8 p.m. **Love Island**: Season 2, CBS (3)

8 p.m. **Holey Moley**, Premiere, ABC (9)

May 24

9 p.m. **National Memorial Day Concert**, PBS (11)

May 25 - Memorial Day

7 p.m. **I Was Lorena Bobbit**, Lifetime (80)

May 27

9 p.m. **Agent's of the S.H.I.E.L.D.**, ABC (9)

TBA **Friends Reunion Special**, unscripted, stream on HBOMax

May 29

Central Park: Season 1, Apple TV+

Space Force: Season 1, Netflix

Coming in June!

Yellowstone: Season 3, Paramount (124)