



# THE COMMUNICATOR

Newsletter from Your Friends at RC Technologies

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(605) 637- 5211 | [www.tnics.com](http://www.tnics.com)



RC offices will be closed on Monday, January 1st and on Monday, January 15, in observance of MLK Day.

## Scholarship Opportunities

RC Technologies would like to let patron families who have high school seniors graduating in 2024 to know, there are scholarship opportunities available for your students. Find scholarship information is listed below and online on RC's website... <https://www.tnics.com>, then click on **About Us**, then **Scholarships**



FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE

### FRS Scholarship

Now Open  
Deadline February 16, 2024

The Foundation for Rural Service annually awards scholarships to an exceptional group of rural students for their first year of college or vocational school. All applicants require sponsorship by an NCTA The Rural Broadband Association member company to be eligible. RC Technologies is an NTCA member. Go online FRS scholarship at [frs.org/programs](http://frs.org/programs)



TECHNOLOGIES

### RC Technologies Scholarship

Now Open  
Deadline March 29, 2024

RC Technologies individually awards two \$500.00 scholarships to graduating high school seniors whose families are current patrons of RC Technologies. Qualified applicants will be asked to submit an application along with a personal essay, letters of recommendation and a chronological list of organizations and/or work history. All documents will be reviewed by a scholarship committee as part of the selection process. Application submissions must be postmarked by March 29,



### SDTA Scholarship

2024 Information Coming To Be Announced

South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) annually awards scholarship under two separate programs or scholarship funds administered by the South Dakota Community Foundation, those two programs/funds include **SDTA Memorial Scholarships** and **Brian Meyer Memorial Scholarships**. Go online to [sdtaonline.com](http://sdtaonline.com), click on **Scholarships**

# Dashing through a Wi-Fi Wonderland



Sure dashing through snow is fun but when there's little snow outside **Dashing through Wi-Fi Wonderland** indoors is a cool alternative.

Enjoy virtual snow activities through **Winter Sports Video Gaming** virtually Ski, Snowboard, Sno-cross and More with games from PS5, Xbox & Nintendo!

Take your level of gaming further and faster and streaming video on more TVs & devices with faster 500 Mb speed!

Call RC Technologies at (605) 637-5211 or make your request online at [www.tnics.com](http://www.tnics.com).



# BACKUP POWER NOTICE

## BACKUP POWER FOR VOICE TELEPHONE SERVICE DURING POWER OUTAGES

Your voice telephone service is provided using state-of-the-art fiber optics, which requires a battery backup power to continue to function during a power outage.

To maintain the ability to connect to 911 emergency services and to avoid disruption of home voice service during an outage, we provided you with the option to purchase or decline a battery backup for your **home voice telephone** service at the time of the initial installation.

This same battery may be at a business, although it generally does not provide enough power to run multiple lines or a business phone system.

## WHAT YOUR BATTERY BACKUP CAN [AND CAN'T] DO FOR YOU

The battery backup for your telephone service allows you to continue using your home voice services during a power outage. **A traditional corded phone must be used at this time.** Without a battery backup or alternative backup source such as a generator, customers with fiber-based telephone service not be able to make any calls, including emergency calls to 911. The only way to maintain the ability to use your home telephone is by using some form of backup power like batteries purchased through RC.

This battery backup does not provide power to any services other than voice. Digital TV and Internet will not function on the battery backup. Home security systems, medical monitoring devices, and other equipment typically will not run on a residential voice telephone backup battery.

## BATTERY REPLACEMENT OPTIONS

The backup battery may need to be replaced five to seven years or when the battery is no longer functioning. It is not possible for a customer to test the battery. To have an 8-hour backup battery replaced, the cost for the battery with installation is \$120. A 24-hour backup battery option is also available. If you have any questions, contact us at 605-637-5211 or [crs@rctechteam.com](mailto:crs@rctechteam.com).

## NEW DIRECTORY LISTINGS

### NEW EFFINGTON

TC Agri Sales (605) 637-5252

### PEEVER

Iverson, Logan (605) 932-3687

### SUMMIT

Pies, Irene (605) 398-6928

Summit Lounge & Cafe (605) 398-6220

### WILMOT

Foell, Dan (605) 938-4491

The Universal Connectivity Fee found on your bill has increased from 34.5 percent to 34.6 percent for the first quarter of 2024.

## Statement of Nondiscrimination

RC Technologies is the recipient of federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance programs. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TDD).

The person responsible for coordinating these organizations' nondiscrimination compliance efforts is Scott Bostrom, General Manager. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

## EXPECTED BACKUP POWER DURATION

Backup batteries are expected to last up to 8 hours on standby power. A backup battery should give you at least 6 hours of talk time. However, other factors may affect the battery, so this is not guaranteed. If you need additional talk time, you may purchase a 24-hour extended life battery backup with installation for \$275.