



## GO GREEN AND SAVE TIME TOO!

### THERE'S NOTHING FUN ABOUT PAYING BILLS. WE CAN'T FIX THAT, BUT THERE IS SOMETHING THAT WE CAN DO TO HELP.

**E-Bill**, our paperless billing option, is free and easy. There are no checks to write and no postage fees. Instead of piles of mail – you'll be able to receive a monthly e-mail with your billing statement.

For added convenience, consider **Easy Pay**, which allows your monthly payment to be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account. (And your bill will always be paid on time!)

**To enroll, stop by our office, call us at 610-826-6650 or visit us online at [www.ptelco.com/ebill](http://www.ptelco.com/ebill) and [www.ptelco.com/easypay](http://www.ptelco.com/easypay).**

### Here are some other easy ways to lessen your impact on the planet and maybe even save some money too!

- > Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL). Unlike incandescent bulbs, they consume less energy, last much longer and convert most of the energy they use into light rather than heat.
- > When you're not using it, unplug anything that glows. Even after you turn them off, your cell phone charger, printer, and appliances continue to draw electricity.
- > Support local farmers. Typical grocery produce travels many miles before it ends up on your plate. Not only will you get the freshest food, you'll also reduce the use of fossil fuels, resulting in less carbon emissions.
- > Recycle your electronics.
- > When it's time to replace a household appliance, choose products with an Energy Star label.
- > Fix drips and leaks in your home to reduce water consumption.
- > Don't run the washing machine or dishwasher until you have a full load to avoid wasting water, power and money.
- > Consider eco-friendly reusable grocery bags instead of disposable plastic bags.

### Phone Numbers

**Customer Service**  
610-826-6650

**Business Office**  
610-826-2115

**Repair Service**  
610-826-3444

**Gilbert Office**  
610-826-9321

SERVING THIS AREA SINCE 1900

465 Delaware Avenue • Palmerton, PA 18071 • [www.ptelco.com](http://www.ptelco.com)

*Do you know that  
Palmerton Telephone  
has been serving the  
area since 1900?*

**NOTICE:**  
Palmerton  
Telephone  
Company now  
charges a fee  
of \$20.00 for  
returned  
checks.

## From the Manager's Desk...

### DID YOU NOTICE?

Will Rogers is quoted as saying, "Even if you are on the right track, if you stand still, you will get run over." We at Palmerton Telephone think we have been on the right track in offering the services our customers want at affordable prices. In order to continue doing this, we must remain current with the technology needed to provide those services and the ones that our customers may want in the future.

When a company reaches the limits of the current technology in use, it faces a choice, either move on with something newer or get run over by the competition. We have chosen the former and have moved on to new technology and new service offerings.

Just as when a highway bridge is replaced by a new one, or a road is re-paved, there is a temporary inconvenience, either a detour or a slowdown in the construction zone. It's much the same with a technology upgrade. On the night of April 1-2, 2014 we placed a new processor and switching matrix in service at Palmerton that will replace our late 20th century technology with the latest available. Through careful planning and thorough testing, our staff was able to bring this about with a minimal disruption of services. The cutover was planned to begin at 10:00 PM on the first and be completed before 6:00 AM on the second. The

major portion of the work took place after midnight, so most of you never knew it happened. Customers in Palmerton may have experienced an interruption of about 5 minutes, while customers in the rest of our service area experienced an outage of 15 – 20 minutes. The reason for this was the time it takes software to load and initialize in the new equipment. If you have a computer, you already know that when the operating system or browser wants to do a software update, you can't use that system while the new software is being uploaded and installed. The engineers and technicians from our equipment vendor, General Bandwidth (GEN-BAND), remarked that this was the most error-free cutover they had participated in thus far. This is a tribute to our engineering and technical staff who worked long and hard to see that things were done properly, efficiently and in the right order.

Over the next few months watch for announcements of new services we will be offering to enhance your communications experience.

Sincerely,

*Tom Lager*

General Manager  
Palmerton Telephone Company

## We Appreciate Our Customers! The Winner of the Apple iPad Air® from Computer Patrol "The Store" is...

### Michelle Piontkowski from Kunkletown, PA!

All customers who subscribe to our Accelerate 10.0 DSL package were automatically entered to win, and customers who upgraded to that package during the month of May were automatically entered too! Thank you for trusting Palmerton Telephone to provide your DSL service.

Recipe July 2014

### BLT Dip

#### Ingredients

- > 1 pound bacon
- > 1 cup mayonnaise
- > 1 cup sour cream
- > 1 tomato - peeled, seeded and diced

#### Directions:

Place bacon in a large, deep skillet. Cook over medium high heat until evenly brown. Drain on paper towels.

In a medium bowl, combine mayonnaise and sour cream. Crumble bacon into the sour cream and mayonnaise mixture. Mix in tomatoes just before serving.

# FEATURED FEATURE:

## ARE YOU GOING ON VACATION? KEEP CALM AND TRAVEL ON!

You've likely heard the catchphrase that originally appeared during World War II on a British public safety poster. The "Keep Calm and Carry On" poster was commissioned in 1939 by the temporary Ministry of Information in England, following the printing of two other inspirational posters, "Freedom Is In Peril. Defend It With All Your Might" and "Your Courage, Your Cheerfulness, Your Resolution Will Bring Us Victory." It was intended to be used to strengthen morale in the event of a large attack or occupation, which many considered inevitable at the time. Though more than a million of these posters were originally commissioned, they were kept in storage after the war and most were destroyed. Since the discovery of one in a bookshop in the northeast of England around the year 2000, the "Keep Calm and Carry On" slogan has been reproduced and parodied around the world.

**Whether you're traveling around the state or around the country, we have the features you need to make your well-deserved retreat more convenient, so "Stay Calm and Travel On."**

### Selective Call Forwarding

Selective Call Forwarding can help you stay in touch with the ones you love by automatically forwarding specific callers to any phone number you choose. Only those calls will be rerouted to your "forward to" number. All others will ring at your home phone as usual.

For just \$3.50 per month, Selective Call Forwarding allows you to forward incoming calls from up to ten (10) telephone numbers within the 610 calling area to another telephone number. Calls made using this service are subject to the regular local or toll charges.

First, if you don't already have this feature, call us to subscribe. Then, when the number of the caller you wish to forward is within the Palmerton Telephone network (most 610-824, 826, 852, 381 and 681 exchanges) you can activate Selective Call Forwarding from your home telephone. If the caller you want to forward is outside the Palmerton Telephone network, simply call our Business Office and we'll set up the forwarding for you.

*Please note, toll charges apply when you forward calls to a number outside your local calling area.*

### Unified Messaging: Voice Mail in Your E-mail

Did you know that Palmerton Telephone offers a FREE feature that allows you to get your phone messages in an e-mail? Unified Messaging sends your Voice Mail messages to your e-mail address, where they appear as a .wav file. That way, all messages are stored in one place, and you have the choice of listening to Voice Mails with either your telephone or your computer. This great service is available as a FREE feature to all Palmerton Telephone Voice Mail customers, so call today to add Voice mail with Unified Messaging to your phone line.

### PenTeleData Webmail

While you're on vacation or simply waiting for an important response, your e-mail will be ready. Just visit [www.ptd.net](http://www.ptd.net). On the right side of the page, click on "My Webmail" and a new browser window will open. Simply enter your user name and password and you're set! E-mails that you have opened from your e-mail at home or work will not be included, so don't forget to close your e-mail client on your home computer while you're away. (Although this can be changed in the Webmail account settings, you'll also need to configure your e-mail to use IMAP).



*Do you know that  
Palmerton Telephone  
copper wires, connected  
end to end, circle the  
earth 4 times at the  
equator?*

## Brain Teaser May 2014 Winner!

**Congratulations to  
Marion Rodgers  
of Palmerton, Pa  
Marion was the  
winner of a \$25 Gift  
Card to Roadies  
Restaurant and Bar  
at Penn's Peak in Jim  
Thorpe, Pa.**

**What is a spring  
chick after  
it's five months old?**

**Answer:  
Six months old**



# How to Improve the Security of Your Computer

## Fun Facts

Elephants communicate in sound waves below the frequency that humans can hear.

Lobster was so common in 18th-century Maine that it was used for fertilizer. In 19th-century Europe, oysters were the luxury food of the day, and lobster was considered a poor man's food.

The center span of the Golden Gate Bridge — once the longest in the world — is 4,200 feet long and 220 feet above the water. The bridge itself is 6,450 feet in length and 90 feet wide.

There are more than 5,919,682 telephones in New York City, more phones than in the entire country of Spain. The cables serving the New York City area have nearly 33,072,975 miles of wire.

The Empire State Building was built with 60,000 tons of steel, 3 million square feet of wire mesh, 70,000 cubic yards of concrete, 10 million bricks, and can accommodate 15,000 people.

Stevie Wonder was 11 years old when he signed his first record contract with Motown.

Did you ever wonder what the "WD" in WD-40® stands for? Per the company, the product's full name is WD-40® Water Displacer, which was perfected on the fortieth attempt. (Some sites have erroneously stated the WD is an abbreviation for Water Displacement.)

One-third of the solar energy reaching the Earth is used in evaporating water; about 95,000 cubic miles each year. This is equivalent to 30 lakes the size of Lake Superior.

There are more beetles on Earth than any other living creature. The number of species alone is nearly a quarter-million.

Most of us rely heavily on our computers for banking and bill paying, connecting with friends and family, shopping, surfing the Internet and more. We trust them with our personal information and assume that they'll always be secure from any damage or harm, but that's not always true. Attackers can infect computers with malware or malicious software, taking advantage of unsafe user practices, find flaws in your programs to exploit, spread malware, access your information, and change the configurations on your computer for their own benefit.

### BE SECURE: Here are some steps you can take to reduce the risks:

**B**eware of unnecessary default features and software. Intruders can attack your computer by exploiting software weaknesses (vulnerabilities), so it makes sense to know what you have and disable any nonessential services. If these services are enabled in your operating system, disable them only if you don't use them. Research any services you aren't sure about before you disable or modify them, because many are critical to your computer's operation.

**E**xercise caution when providing personal information, opening email attachments and clicking on untrusted links. Phishers are often the originators of spam e-mail messages—especially the ones that mention a problem with one of your accounts and ask for personal information to deal with some urgent issue.

**S**afeguard your router. Follow the manufacturer's directions to properly set-up your router and update the firmware. Continue to access updates on a regular basis, since they are usually not automatic. It is also important to change the router's default username and passwords.

**E**nable and configure a firewall. A firewall is a piece of hardware or software that acts as a protec-

tive barrier between a computer or network and the Internet.

**C**reate strong passwords and change them at least every six months. Avoid using real words or personal information. Choose a longer password over a shorter password and don't use the same one for multiple sites. Use some uppercase letters along with lowercase letters, numbers, and even special characters such as '%' or '@'. (Example: C@mpuT3r)

**U**se current antivirus and antispyware software. In today's connected world, good virus protection is essential to protect your computer. Just as important as installing anti-virus software, is to keep it current, including purchasing the annual subscriptions. There are several options on the market, but most carry all the same benefits.

**R**everview your security settings, especially on social media accounts. Most social media websites allow you to control your security settings. Be sure to customize these options so that you decide who can see your personal information and posts.

**E**nable automatic updates. Unless you diligently keep track of operating system updates on your own, allowing automatic updates is an easy way to make sure that you have the most recent security patches.

**If all of this sounds daunting, consider Computer Patrol "The Store," located at 528 Delaware Avenue in Palmerton. In addition to selling all things computer and accessory related, including wireless routers, printers, monitors and ink, they also offer computer repair. Their team of technicians will repair almost any PC problem, even if another shop hasn't been able to help. We'd like to say it's their superhero powers, but really, it's the knowledge that comes with experience. Best of all, you'll always get a free estimate before any repairs are completed.**

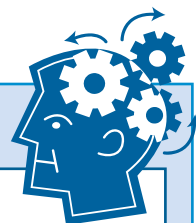
## Can you beat this BRAIN TEASER?

**Palmerton Telephone is giving away a \$25 Gift Card to Roadies Restaurant and Bar at Penn's Peak in Jim Thorpe, Pa.**

To enter, e-mail the correct answer to [ptelco@ptd.net](mailto:ptelco@ptd.net) or send a 3" x 5" index card to 465 Delaware Ave. Palmerton, PA 18071. Please include your name, address, daytime telephone number (to call only if you win), and the Brain Teaser answer. All entries must be received by **7/20/14**.

**Good Luck! Palmerton Telephone**

### Brain Teaser



The more of them you take  
the more you leave behind.  
What are they?