

# one voice

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED



## Meet RGTC's Newest Employee

Cory Stovey's experience with underground cable construction, heavy equipment, and electronics have provided him with the needed skills to become a valued Construction Worker at RGTC. Cory has also been completing telephone, video, and High Speed Internet installations and repairs. Originally from Soldiers Grove, Cory is familiar with the area and already knows many of our customers. **Welcome Cory!** We are happy to have you on the Richland-Grant Telephone Team!

### Contact Us

202 N. East Street • PO Box 67  
Blue River, WI 53518-9901  
537-2461

**Customer Service & Repair**  
611 or 537-2461

**24/7 Internet Help Desk**  
536-HELP, 537-HELP, 538-HELP  
624-HELP, 735-HELP

**E-mail Us**                      **Visit Us Online**  
rgtc@mwt.net                      www.rgtc.coop  
Click on the "On-Line Directory" tab for valuable coupons and important information.

**Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm

**Holiday Closure**  
**Friday, July 4**  
for Independence Day

**Monday, September 1**  
for Labor Day



## Before You Dig, Know What's Below

There could be many things below ground in your yard besides earth worms. It's also where utility lines are located, including the infrastructure for electricity, water, sewer, gas/petroleum, and communications. Part of the communications infrastructure in this community is the underground fiber-optic network installed by Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative to bring you expanded bandwidth capabilities. Repairing fiber-optic cable is especially costly and time consuming due to the hundreds of tiny hair-like strands of fiber in each cable.

**Before you begin any construction project (even small jobs like planting trees and shrubs), call 811 to get utility lines located and marked for free.** If you are hiring a contractor, it is the contractor's responsibility to call 811 to schedule the location of the underground services. But since it could be your service that is interrupted, check with your contractor to make sure Digger's Hotline gets called. Keep in mind that the depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you, or even potentially result in fines and repair costs.

With one quick call to 811, all utilities in your area will be notified to come and mark the location of their lines. When you call, be prepared to pinpoint the location of your dig site, describe the type of work to be done, and provide your planned start date for the project. Remember to call at least three business days before you dig.



### Ever wondered what the color of the paint and flags used by the locators means? Here's the universal color code:

- **Orange** – Communications, Telephone/CATV
- **Yellow** – Gas/Petroleum Pipe Line
- **Red** - Electric
- **Purple** – Reclaimed Water
- **Blue** – Potable Water
- **White** – Premark site of intended excavation
- **Green** – Sewer/Drainage

**It's really very simple:** Don't pick up the shovel until you pick up the phone. Call 811 and know what's below.

# Avoid the Lure of Social Media Scams

With the increased popularity of social media sites comes increased risk. Cybercriminals and other scam artists are all-too-willing to “socialize” for their own gain. Symantec, a leading security company, warns of these four common social networking scams:

## Chain Letters

You’ve undoubtedly seen variations of the chain letter scam. It may appear in the form of tweets that say something like, “Retweet this and Bill Gates will donate \$5 million to charity!” Many well-meaning people pass these fake claims onto others; don’t be one of them. If you receive a message like this from a friend, tell the person that it’s likely a scam and not to participate in it.

## Cash Grabs

By their very nature, social media sites make it easy for us to stay in touch with friends while reaching out to meet new ones. But how

well do you really know these new online acquaintances? Remember—that person with the attractive profile picture who suddenly needs money is probably a thief looking for easy cash.

## Phishing Requests

You might get an email that says, “Somebody just put up these pictures of you! Check them out here!” If you click on the link, it will take you to your Facebook or Twitter login page. Stop! Once you enter your account information, a cybercriminal will have your password, along with control of your account.

## Hidden URLs

Beware of blindly clicking on shortened URLs. You’ll see them everywhere on Twitter, but you never know where you’re going to end up since the Web address hides the full location. To reduce your risk, make sure your computer has up-to-date protection against spyware and viruses.

## Students Attend Youth Leadership Conference

Cooperatives, effective communications, and careers were among a few topics explored by nearly 125 students from Wisconsin and Minnesota at the 2014 Co-op Yes! Youth Leadership Conference at the Holiday Inn in Eau Claire, WI, March 17-18, 2014.

Participating high school students were sponsored by nearly 30 cooperatives to attend this year’s event, which is hosted annually by Cooperative Network.



The annual Co-op Yes! Youth Leadership Conference is a dynamic experience for students to learn about and appreciate the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative business. The conference is open to all high school sophomores, juniors and seniors from Wisconsin and Minnesota.

This year, Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative sponsored two students, Macy Curtis and Jordan Livingston, both from Riverdale High School.

## Graduating Seniors Benefit from Annual Scholarship Programs

Richland-Grant Telephone Cooperative proudly gives back to the community by awarding scholarships to deserving high school seniors who plan to pursue secondary education at technical schools and universities. Three graduates will each receive \$500 scholarships: **Ryley Cooper** who will be attending UW-Platteville, **Katelyn Mathews** who will be attending Southwest Technical College, and **Henry Schellhorn** who will be attending UW-Madison. In addition, Henry Schellhorn was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship from the Wisconsin State Telecommunications Foundation and Ryley Cooper was awarded the \$1,500 Bruce Reuber Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship for their academic success and extracurricular participation. *Congratulations to all area graduates!*



Ryley Cooper  
Richland Center  
High School



Katelyn Mathews  
Riverdale  
High School



Henry Schellhorn  
North Crawford  
High School