

**Jefferson Telecom**  
SPRING 2025

# intouch



## Grab Your Phone Before Your Shovel

There may be more than roots underground on your property. Utility lines including fiber-optic cables could also be buried there, possibly close to the surface and easily damaged by digging. That's why every digging job—from planting a bush to installing a fence—requires a call to 811 to have utility lines marked. Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

### Contact

Jefferson Telecom  
105 West Harrison Street/PO Box 269  
Jefferson, IA 50129  
Phone: 515-386-4141  
Hours: Mon: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Tues-Fri: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

### Email Jefferson Telecom

info@jeffersontelecom.com

### Visit Us Online

www.jeffersontelecom.com

**Jefferson**  
TELECOM  
Technology People Talk About

# FIBER ALWAYS WINS



## STAY ON TEAM FIBER FOR UNBEATABLE INTERNET SPEED AND RELIABILITY

Fiber Internet brings much more to the game than 5G home Internet ever will. So, stick with fiber Internet to enjoy:

- **Winning speeds** – Up to a Gigabit Connection (940 Mbps) for buffering-free streaming
- **Winning reliability** – 99.9% uptime for a connection to count on for all the big games
- **Winning customer experience** – Unlimited usage with NO DATA CAPS or throttling

It's a slam dunk. Fiber Internet always wins, and you deserve to be on the winning team. (5G home Internet isn't even in the same league.)

**CALL 515-386-4141, OPTION #3 FOR MORE STATS**

## 5 Downsides of 5G Home Internet

Some customers who switched to 5G home Internet are feeling buyer's remorse for these reasons:

- 1. Service is less stable.** Signals for 5G travel through the air rather than in cables underground, so speeds tend to fluctuate.
- 2. Actual speeds are often slower than advertised ones.** Factors such as network congestion, obstructions, and inclement weather can slow down speeds.
- 3. During peak usage times, your connection may be deprioritized.** This is because 5G home Internet is shared by many cellular phone users.
- 4. The farther you are from the radio towers, the weaker your Internet signal will be.** Since 5G home Internet uses radio frequencies, travel distances are limited.
- 5. 5G home Internet isn't as good as fiber Internet.** Fiber is the fastest, most reliable Internet available.

Call 515-386-4141, option #3 for details on our fiber Internet.

Win a \$20 Credit on Your Jefferson Telecom Bill

\$20

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill or email [info@jeffersontelecom.com](mailto:info@jeffersontelecom.com) for a chance to win a \$20 credit to your account.\* Respond by April 20, 2025, to be eligible. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations to our last "Winner of a \$20 Credit," Doris Phelps of Jefferson.

\*We never sell or share your contact information with anyone.



Dave Diderksen, Communications Technician

## Welcome to fiber, rural areas of Jamaica, Grand Junction, and Rippey

Jefferson Telecom successfully completed the first phase of our fiber buildout, bringing high-speed fiber Internet to rural Jamaica, Grand Junction, and Rippey residents. With fiber, these residents now have access to incredibly fast Internet speeds — up to a Gigabit Connection (940 Mbps).

In addition to more speed, fiber Internet provides a more stable and reliable connection than wireless options like 5G, ensuring you can keep streaming, gaming, working, and communicating without annoying interruptions. If you want Internet service you can count on, fiber is the best choice!

## Happy Customers and Neighborly Service

We've already heard from many satisfied customers who have made the switch to fiber Internet with Jefferson Telecom. Here's what a few of them had to say:

*"Dave did a great job getting me hooked up and informing me on how to best use my new services."*  
– Ken M.

*"We are able to use multiple devices at much quicker speeds. We appreciate your service and expertise."*  
– Heidi C.

*"Dave was awesome."* – Todd F.

*"Excited to have the fiber Internet hooked up. Install was a breeze."* – Shelly F.

At Jefferson Telecom, our technicians aren't just experts in installing and maintaining fiber. They're also your neighbors and the people you see at the grocery store, local restaurants, and community events. As members of the community, our team takes pride in making sure the job is done right, because we truly care about keeping you connected.

We're not stopping here! Jefferson Telecom will continue expanding fiber service to additional rural areas this spring. Residents in the next phase of our fiber buildout will be notified as construction progresses. We want you to experience the speed and reliability of fiber, because your connection matters.

**If you have any questions or want to learn more about getting fiber at your home, call Jefferson Telecom at 515-386-4141, option #3.**



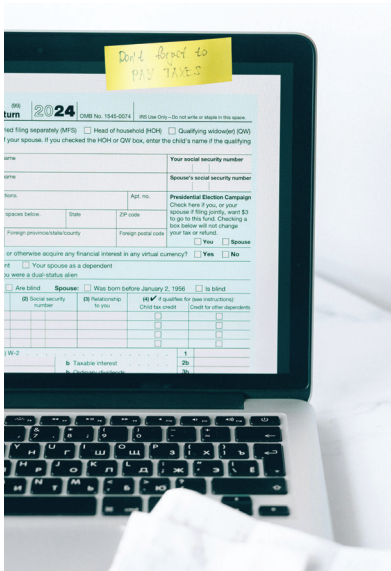
# Don't Make These Common Password Mistakes

All you have to do is scan the headlines to know cybercrime is on the rise. Perhaps the number-one thing you can do to stay safe online is make sure your passwords are strong. To do that, avoid these mistakes:

- **Your password can be found in the dictionary.** A software program can go through the entire dictionary very quickly, so this type of password is the easiest to crack. If you must use this strategy, at the very least do things like change the Ss to 5s, randomly capitalize letters, or string together several words. For example, create a password like “caRtRuckhou5e.”
- **Your password contains personal information.** Things like your birthdate, name, and address are easy to guess, even if you tack extra numbers or other characters onto them. Other easy-to-guess information includes your spouse's name or birthdate, your anniversary, your kids' names, and your pets' names. While you're at it, remember to not use this information in security questions either. Instead make something up for your mother's maiden name, the elementary school you went to, and so on.
- **Your password is all lowercase letters.** Passwords that are varied — with both lower and uppercase letters, numbers, and special characters — are much harder to guess. While you're creating more complex passwords, also remember to not just tack on the uppercase letters, numbers, and special characters at the end; instead, spread them throughout the password. Remember, the more you can do to increase the complexity of the password, the better.



- **You always use the same password.** If you do this, you make it easy for a hacker who's accessed one of your accounts to access more of them. Yes, it's harder to remember more passwords, but worth the hassle for the added security.
- **Your password is set, but you can't remember it.** Due to cybercrime, many devices and apps have made the use of passwords more mandatory and the process to retrieve or change a password more stringent. If remembering passwords — or having them stored in both a secure and retrievable location — is problematic, consider using a password manager.



## IRS Tips to Avoid Tax Season Scams

Tax season can be stressful for many reasons—from the pressure to gather all the necessary records to the financial strain when you have to send money to the IRS. Adding to that list is the potential of getting scammed.

Scammers may try to mislead you about tax refunds, credits, and payments. Or they may pressure you to make payments or provide personal or financial information.

Here's what the IRS says to watch out for this time of year:

- **Promises of a refund** – If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Bad tax advice on social media could urge you to falsify tax forms or credit claims.
- **Demands or threats** – IRS impersonators want you to pay “now or else.” They often threaten arrest or deportation if you don't.
- **Suspicious website links** – Scammers will try to take you to their malicious look-alike sites instead of the official [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

Stay alert and informed to avoid getting scammed.



## Enjoy the Many Advantages of Using Streaming Services



If you haven't jumped on the streaming bandwagon yet, what are you waiting for? Streaming services offer many advantages compared to traditional TV plans like satellite or cable. Here are the top ones:

**Cost Savings** – Subscribing to streaming services usually ends up costing much less than paying for satellite or cable TV. Plus, some of them offer a free trial so you can test out the service

to see if it meets your needs. Even if you subscribe to several streaming services, you'll still save money.

**Bigger Variety of Content** – On-demand streaming services maintain huge libraries of TV shows and movies that you can enjoy whenever you want. You don't have to follow any routine or worry about missing a show if you happen to miss its broadcast. Plus, live streaming services give you access to the channels you love from cable TV. You get the best of both worlds!

**Lack of Weather Issues** – If you now have satellite TV and struggle with spotty service during high winds or heavy rains, you'll appreciate the fact that streaming services won't have those issues.

**More Original Content** – Many streaming services pride themselves on their award-winning original content that's not available with any other streaming service or on network TV.

**Less Mindless TV Viewing** – Instead of turning on the TV to watch whatever is on or engage in aimless channel surfing, users of streaming services tend to turn it on to intentionally watch a specific show or movie. This can lead to less time being a couch potato and more time being active in your community.

**An essential companion to streaming services is a fast and reliable Internet connection. Jefferson Telecom offers Internet plans with download speeds up to a Gigabit Connection (940 Mbps). To learn more about streaming, check out our StreamNow guide at [gostreamnow.com/Jefferson](http://gostreamnow.com/Jefferson).**

## Let Us Help You Get Started With Streaming

Jefferson Telecom hosted free Streaming 101 classes in February with great success, helping community members navigate the world of streaming TV. If you're considering cutting the cord but aren't sure where to start, we're here to help!

Streaming 101 walks you through everything you need to know, including:

- What streaming is and why it's so popular
- Internet speed, devices, and setup tips
- Streaming service options such as YouTube TV, Netflix, Hulu, and more
- Step-by-step guidance to help you make the switch

We wrap up with a Q&A session, so you can get answers to your specific questions. Whether you're brand new to streaming or looking to optimize your setup, this class will give you the confidence to move forward.

**Interested in a future Streaming 101 class? Call Jefferson Telecom at 515-386-4141, option #3 to get on the list!**

