



BUSY LINE

McDonough Telephone Cooperative • Colchester, Illinois

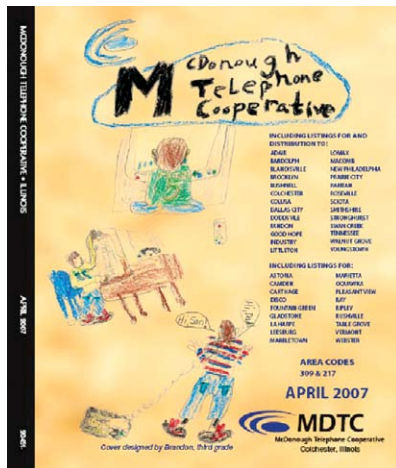
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2007 Directories Distributed

Most subscribers should have already received their 2007 McDonough Telephone Cooperative Regional Directory. Our office staff and our publisher, Directory Publishing Solutions, Inc., have worked hard to produce an accurate, useful and attractive book.

The 2007 directory boasts all of the great features found in the 2006 book: easy to read listings, colorful and informative preliminary pages, a handy reverse telephone number-to-name lookup and the blue-tabbed government section which contains all local, county, state and federal government listings in

one spot. For your convenience, we've added video troubleshooting hints and diagrams to the preliminary pages.



If you've never used the reverse number look-up in our directory, be sure to check it out. It is the section tabbed in black. Every number contained in our directory is listed in numerical order followed by the name associated with the number. Have an area number on your phone bill that you don't recognize?

The reverse look-up can solve the mystery. We are always anxious to get your input about the directory. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact us.

Troubleshooting A Home Network Setup

Multi-computer households are more common than ever. Setting up a home network allows everyone to share the same high-speed Internet connection, printer and files.

Wi-Fi, or wireless networking, is the most flexible way to set up a home network. Wi-Fi works by sending radio signals to and from each computer on the network. If you'd like to improve the signal of your wireless network, try some of these tips.

1. Position your wireless router in a central location in your home. If your wireless router is against an outside wall, your useful signal is reduced by half.

2. Move the router off the floor and away from walls and metal objects such as file cabinets. Metal, walls and floors interfere with your router's wireless

signals. If your router is close to these obstructions, you'll experience more interference and a weaker signal.

3. Replace your router's antenna. Standard antennas broadcast in all directions around the router equally. If you're forced to set up the router near an outside wall, upgrading to a hi-gain antenna will allow you to make better use of the router's power. Hi-gain antennas focus the signal in only one direction so you direct it where you need it most.

4. Replace your computer's wireless network adapter. Wireless network signals are sent both to and from your computer. If your router broadcasts strongly enough to reach your computer, but your computer can't send signals back, replace your laptop's PC card-based network adapter with a USB network adapter

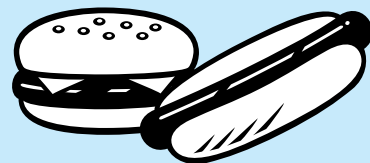
Recipes, Please!

The recipes for our McDonough Telephone member and employee cookbook have started rolling in. With all of the talented cooks out there, we can surely put together a collection of gastronomic delights.

The deadline for submissions is April 30, 2007. All members who submit an entry will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 bill credit.

We encourage inclusion of any anecdotes or photos that will add to the presentation of the recipes and make the book more meaningful. The cookbooks will be used as attendance gifts at this year's annual meeting in September.

Time is running out. Send your entry – or entries – today!



We're Coming To YOU!

McDonough Telephone Lunchtime Exchange

Raritan Opera House
112 E. Main St. • Raritan
Thursday, April 26 • 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Serving up hamburgers
and hot dogs!
We hope you'll join us!



McDonough Telephone Cooperative
Colchester: 309-776-3211 or 888-640-4334
Lomax: 217-449-3211

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

that uses an external antenna.

5. Add a wireless repeater. Wireless repeaters extend your wireless network range without requiring you to add any wiring.

6. Change your wireless channel. Wireless routers can broadcast on channels 1, 6 and 11. If you're experiencing a lot of interference on one channel, try changing the channel through your router's configuration page to see if your signal strength improves.

7. Reduce wireless interference. If you have cordless phones, other wireless electronics or a microwave in your house, your computer may not be able to "hear" your router over the noise from the other devices. Avoid electronics using

the 2.4GHz frequency. Look for cordless phones using 5.8GHz or 900MHz frequencies.

8. Update your firmware or your network adapter driver. Router manufacturers regularly make free improvements to their routers. To get the latest firmware updates, visit your router manufacturer's web site.

9. Choose equipment from a single vendor. While you can mix equipment brands, you'll often experience better performance if you pick a router and network adapter from the same vendor.

10. Upgrade 802.11b devices to 802.11g. 802.11b is the most common type of wireless network, but 802.11g is about five times faster.

Calling JULIE Has Never Been Easier

Spring is here, and you're anxious to launch all of those outdoor projects you've been planning over the winter.

Whether you want to build an addition to your home, add a deck, plant a tree or surround your yard with a fence, the first item on your project plan should be to call JULIE.

Effective April 1, 2007, making that call will be even easier. JULIE (Joint Utility Locating Information for



Excavators), also known as the "Illinois One-Call System," joined over 1,400 other interested agencies and organizations across the country to form the Common Ground Alliance. The members of the alliance are working together to produce strategies for damage prevention.

One of the results of this collaboration is the designation of a national 811 "Call Before You Dig" number. The 62 One-Call Centers across the country each have their own number for reporting a dig. By developing a single number - 811 - that can be used anywhere in the country, contractors and homeowners will have an easy job of it when they need to place a call.

The stakes are high if you fail to

place the call to JULIE, and a cable or gas line or water main is cut. In addition to the danger in which you place

yourself and your neighbors, the Illinois Commerce Commission has set fines from \$200 up to \$5,000 for each separate offense. You will probably also be billed by the utility company for the damage caused to their property.

When you call JULIE, be prepared to provide the following information: name, address and a phone number at which you can be reached, a fax or a pager number; county and city or county and unincorporated township name where you will be digging; location at which the excavation will take place, which may include but not be limited to, address, cross street, subdivision name, etc.; section and quarter-section numbers from your plat of survey if available.

Locating services are free, but the price can be high if you don't call first to report a dig. It's safe, it's smart, it's simple - call JULIE at 811. Callers will still be able to reach JULIE using its traditional toll-free number 1-800-892-0123. More information is available at www.illinois1call.com.



Business Office Closed For Good Friday

The cooperative's business office will be closed on Friday, April 6, in observance of Good Friday. Members should dial 611 in the event of service problems. If calling from a cellular phone or from outside of our service area, dial 1-309-776-3214. Other requests or questions regarding billing issues may be left on our voice mail.

We wish you and yours peace, love and joy this Easter season and throughout the year.

Directory Additions

Amos, Gina	776-4285
Bean, Marilyn	257-2203
Crum, Leslie	257-2584
Danielson, Michael T.	776-3223
Dowd, Midge	652-3450
Forbes, J.	746-6222
Lenahan, Jill	449-3818
McCament, Sharon	776-3649
Pershing, Mike	776-5246
Seaver, Tony & Tamara	776-4572

Lomax Office Schedule APRIL 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Days Open in Red • Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
April 16 - Bills Due • April 25 - Disconnect