



Dear Loyal 3RTV Customer,

3 Rivers has been providing TV service for over a decade, starting with our purchase of existing cable TV franchises in Conrad, Shelby, Choteau and Fairfield. With the launch of our own digital TV service soon after, we were able to reach most of our remaining exchanges, delivering a service to our cooperative members offered by no other local provider. We appreciate all those who stuck with 3 Rivers through our growing pains while we developed 3RTV.

However, the TV landscape has changed drastically from when we first entered the field in 2009. At that time, the only other option for most of our customers was satellite TV. There are now multiple streaming TV services like Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime, YouTube TV and many others offering what is essentially live TV over the Internet, some even with local channels. 3 Rivers cannot match the vast content, choices and advanced services that these much larger companies deliver, often at a lower price than we can offer.

As of October 31, 2019, 3 Rivers will no longer provide TV service. This will allow us to focus our resources on providing the best broadband Internet service to all cooperative members. By steering our financial assets and workforce energy towards broadband, we will be able to concentrate on our long term goal of connecting nearly all 3 Rivers customers via fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) within the next five years. We also plan to improve our members' broadband service by **increasing available speeds this summer** and enhancing the in-home WiFi experience included with our home Internet connection.

With the myriad of streaming services available over the Internet and a fast broadband connection from 3 Rivers, along with traditional satellite providers like DirecTV and Dish, your TV options are limitless. Please take some time to explore what's available to you. We have included a few resources on the back of this notice to help you get started.

We will honor all discounts and bundle pricing until service is discontinued, and there will be no early termination fees should you end service before your current agreement expires. You will receive additional notices and reminders over the next few months. However, it might be in your best interest to make a decision as soon as you can, especially if you want to subscribe to a satellite service that requires an appointment for equipment installation. We have heard of cases where it can take up to 60 days to have satellite service installed in some rural areas.

Thank you for being a dedicated and understanding cooperative member. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Your 3 Rivers Team

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TV Alternatives

For online options, visit the websites for the streaming services listed on the front, or go to **www.suppose.tv**. This site allows you to compare various services by price and available programming. It may be worthwhile to check out this site before signing a long term contract with another provider.

Dish Network dish.com • 1-844-848-1071

DirectTV Directv.com • 1-888-777-2454

What is Streaming TV Service?

Streaming TV services are delivered over the Internet via third party apps to Internet-connected devices such as your PC, smartphone, smart TV or tablet. You may sometimes see streaming services referred to as “OTT”, an acronym for “over-the-top”—basically meaning “over the Internet”. “Streaming service” and “OTT” are the same thing.

Streaming services such as Netflix, Hulu and Amazon Prime feature original programming unique to their service along with a back catalog of current and older movies and TV shows. Other streaming services like Sling TV and DirecTV Now basically mimic the programming and lineups of traditional Dish and DirecTV respectively, with a somewhat lower cost since they don’t require set top boxes or satellite dishes. Some of these services even offer local channels.

These services can be accessed via a “smart TV” (a TV with Internet capability built-in) without an additional device, as long as the TV has the app you want pre-loaded onto your TV. If the app you want to use is not pre-loaded, devices such as a Roku or Amazon Fire Stick can be plugged into your TV to provide access.

Video streaming requires a good broadband connection and higher quality video uses more bandwidth than lower quality video. A service like Netflix recommends at minimum the following download speeds:

- 3.0 Mbps - Recommended for SD quality
- 5.0 Mbps - Recommended for HD quality
- 25 Mbps - Recommended for Ultra HD quality

Watch for an announcement coming soon from 3 Rivers with big news about speed increases for our standard Internet service levels, with no change in price!