

CUTTING THE CORD



WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- ◉ We are tethered to phone lines, cable, Internet, satellite and even virtually to our cell phones and tablets.
- ◉ It means we are paying a variety of providers for a variety of services, most of which we DO NOT use.
- ◉ The more we can cut the cord, the more money we can save.

WHY WOULD YOU DO IT?

- ◉ Typical costs for being “attached”:
- ◉ Cable or Satellite TV: \$85
- ◉ Home Phone \$42
- ◉ Internet \$59
- ◉ Cell phone \$81
- ◉ TOTAL: \$267

- ◉ OR: \$3,204 a year!!!!

CAN YOU LIVE WITHOUT IT?

- ◉ In 1965, the average American paid the following:
 - ◉ TV \$00.00
 - ◉ Home Phone \$16.00
 - ◉ Internet \$00.00
 - ◉ Cell Phone \$00.00
 - ◉ TOTAL: \$192.00/YEAR
- ◉ Sure, we only got 4-5 channels and long distance calls cost extra but we survived.

PHASE 1: THE BEGINNING

- ◉ Disconnect all cable/satellite services.
- ◉ Purchase a digital antenna, it will get 23-27 channels in Sunflower
- ◉ Rent movies from Redbox
- ◉ Joint Sunflower Technology Club for all Internet related activities

- ◉ COSTS:
- ◉ Redbox rentals 52 @ \$1.50 \$78/year
- ◉ Tech Club \$25/year
- ◉ TOTAL: \$103/year
- ◉ SAVINGS: \$2,597/year*
- ◉ *still paying for home phone

PHASE 2: BRAVE NEW WORLD

- ◉ Same as Phase 1 except you need a laptop
- ◉ Subscription to Netflix/Amazon/Hulu
- ◉ Service called PlayLater
- ◉ Flash Drive
- ◉ Tech Club membership
- ◉ You take your laptop to the lab, download videos using PlayLater, load to your flash drive and watch at your convenience (time shifting is LEGAL)

COST OF PHASE 2

- ◉ Laptop - one time costs of \$300-\$400
- ◉ \$120 for a year of Netflix or Amazon Prime
- ◉ \$20 a year for PlayLater
- ◉ \$25 for tech club membership
- ◉ \$78 for Redbox (more current rentals)
- ◉ TOTAL (w/o laptop) \$243.00

- ◉ SAVINGS: \$2,457/YEAR*

- ◉ *still paying for home phone

PHASE 3: GETTING SERIOUS

- ◉ Get home Internet at 25/12 speeds - \$40
- ◉ Get VOIP at \$3.00 month, drop home phone \$-39 (makes the Internet essentially free)
- ◉ Sling TV - A la carte TV in the formative stages - \$20 a month
- ◉ Netflix - \$10 but now in your own home and on demand - drop Redbox requirement
- ◉ Get unlimited cell from Wal-Mart - \$540/yr
- ◉ COSTS: Sling TV \$240 + Netflix \$120 + cell \$540 = \$900/year.
- ◉ SAVINGS: \$2,304!!!

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY

- ◉ Digital antenna installation - \$100-\$500
- ◉ Redbox - Hey, it's at Safeway & Walgreens
- ◉ Netflix using PlayLater, some lab time and practice
- ◉ Internet at home - router, modem, some knowledge of how wireless works
- ◉ Sling TV - not perfect but getting close

SAVINGS SUMMARY:

- Phase 1: \$2,597
- Phase 2: \$2,457
- Phase 3: \$2,304
- Limitations of all of these: Limited number of TV channels - 23-46
- VOIP isn't as clear as landline service but close
- Needs involvement by the user

WHAT'S NEXT:

- ◉ Phase 4 is next Fall but as a hint:
- ◉ Every premium channel, every regular channel, every movie service, every sports channel, VOIP, high speed Internet, and still save more than Phase 1, 2 or 3!!!