

THE COMMUNICATOR

SMU COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2017



Retransmission ahead

As the year continues we will be working to renegotiate several broadcast channels up for renewal. Our goal is to continue to provide affordable service to our customers.

Spencer and Clay County are in the Sioux City, Iowa Designated Market Area (DMA), which is the geographical area of stations that can elect must-carry status by SMU. Living in Spencer we have had a very unique privilege to have additional broadcast stations outside our DMA in our lineup. Due to contract negotiations, we also anticipate new contractual limitations on stations we can carry.

Many customers think broadcast channels are free when in fact, SMU has been paying for them since 2009 and as a result has had to pass some of the fees on to customers.

Watch for more information as the year continues and we have reached agreements with several broadcast channels up for renewal.



Recent Channel Changes

On June 30, 2017, E! HD was added to the SMU cable lineup on channel 257.

On July 15, 2017, Universal HD was no longer available to us so it was removed from the cable lineup on channel 361.



Communications Act Section 255

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has rules requiring telecommunications service providers like Spencer Municipal Utilities to make its services and products accessible to people with disabilities, if such access is readily achievable. These rules implement Section 255 of the Federal Communications Act. Section 255 requires telecommunications service providers to make their services and specialized customer premises equipment that are commonly used by people with disabilities, if such compatibility is readily achievable. Please contact us at 580.5800 for further information or to discuss your accessibility needs and the options we may have to assist you in using our services.


Update on Fiber to the Home Construction

Spencer Municipal Utilities is continuing to expand fiber to the home communication services throughout Spencer. Phase I conversions are complete serving approximately 700 customers. Underground construction is finished for Phase II and III for additional homes and businesses in Spencer. Conversions are 84% complete in Phase II and 18% complete in Phase III. SMU with the help of a fiber installation contractor is completing inside installations for Phase II and Phase III.

To see a map of the areas included, visit our website at www.smunet.net.


Customers affected by the updates will be notified when we need their assistance in getting their service address set up.

Watch for more information as this multi-year project continues to better serve the community of Spencer!



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YOUR PACE
SPEED UP
YOUR INTERNET**

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