



114 W. Jefferson • Bloomfield, Iowa
www.mycmtech.com • 641-664-2074
Volume 23 Issue 1 • February 1, 2023

NEWSLETTER

What is Malware?

Malware is a file or code, delivered over a network, that infects, explores, steals, and conducts any behavior that the attacker seeks to exploit.

How to PREVENT Malware:

If you need to download something, you should scan the download against your anti-virus program installed on your device. In addition to scanning downloads, the following steps will help you prevent malware.

1. Use strong passwords.
2. Keep your device up to date.
3. Think before you click.
4. Be careful about opening attachments.
5. Do not trust pop-up windows asking for access.
6. Limit who you share files with.



How to SPOT Malware?

- Sudden slowdown, crash, or repeated error messages.
- Device will not restart or shutdown.
- Inability to remove software.
- Pop-ups, ads, and inappropriate content appear.
- Ads appear in places they should not, like federal sites.
- New toolbars or icons appear.
- Different Search Engine.
- Redirection of Homepage

Scholarship Opportunities for High School Seniors

Citizens Mutual is offering to seniors whose parents are members of the Cooperative:



Iowa Communications Alliance Membership Scholarship

ICA is excited to announce the availability of two \$2,500 scholarships to be awarded to a student whose parent or guardian is currently employed by or serving as a director of an Iowa Communications Alliance “Voting Member” Company. This application is also open to any student who is a current employee of an ICA Voting Member Company. **We have expanded the applicant eligibility to include both high school seniors and current fulltime undergraduate college/university student who will be continuing their undergraduate education in the 2023-2024 academic year.**

Application deadline is March 3, 2023

Go to www.iacomcommunicationsall.org/ica-scholarship to start the application

Foundation For Rural Service Scholarship

The foundation annually awards scholarships to an exceptional group of rural students for their first year of college or vocational school. All applicants require sponsorship by a NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association member company to be eligible. FRS has awarded over \$1 million in scholarships since its inception; empowering rural students throughout the country to advance their communities with invaluable skill sets and experiences.

Applications will be accepted until February 8, 2023.

Aureon Scholarship Program

The Aureon Scholarship Program is available to students pursuing a STEM-related course of study after high school graduation and residing in a home with service from an Iowa Independent Telecommunications Company (ITC). The program will award a total of \$10,000. Individual scholarships will range from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

Visit <https://www.aureon.com/eventpages/aureon-scholarship-program/>

Application deadline is midnight March 1, 2023.

High School Students!

Citizens Mutual is proud to once again sponsor a student to attend the Foundation for Rural Service Youth Tour in Washington, DC. This year's Youth Tour will be May 31- June 4, 2023.

Students attending the youth tour will have the opportunity to tour some of Washington D.C.'s most exciting historical sites, including the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, U.S. Capitol, and other famous historical sites. Students will also have a chance to learn firsthand about legislative and governmental processes as they relate to the telecommunications industry.

The Youth Tour is sponsored by the Foundation for Rural Service. This foundation was begun by the National Telephone Cooperative Association, which is a national trade association through which Citizens Mutual participates in activities relating to the telecommunications industry.

Applications for the 2023 Youth Tour may be picked up at the Citizens Mutual business office located at 114 W Jefferson St., Bloomfield or from the High School Guidance Counselor. Any student who is currently 15, 16 or 17 living in Davis County and whose parents are members of Citizens Mutual is eligible to apply.

All applications are to be returned to Citizens Mutual Telephone before March 10, 2023.

A winner and an alternate will be selected on an anonymous basis by a committee of the Board of Directors of Citizens Mutual.

Pedestals

It is a new year and Citizens Mutual would like everyone to be watchful of the phone pedestals in the alleys and along the side of roads and drives.

When a pedestal gets damaged, it can affect service to a large number of customers. Whether you are pushing snow this winter, burning weeds this spring, or clearing and mowing ditches and fence rows this summer, please watch out for

the phone pedestals.

If you ever happen to see one of our phone pedestals damaged, please kindly let us know so we can get it repaired and avoid any service outages.



Annual Meeting and Summary of Bylaws

The following information is provided in accordance with the requirements of the Rural Utility Services (RUS):

- The Cooperative's annual meeting shall be held each year on the date designated by the Board of Directors.
- Notices shall be mailed to each member prior to each annual meeting.
- Each member shall be entitled to one vote on each item submitted at the meeting.
- All questions shall be decided by majority vote of those members present or represented by mail.
- Each director shall select and appoint a member of the Nominating Committee.
- The members of the Nominating Committee shall nominate cooperative members for vacancies on the Board of Directors in accordance with the prescribed director area representation.
- A statement of the nominations shall be mailed to each member not later than sixty days prior to the annual meeting.

The Cooperative's complete bylaws are printed in the information pages of your telephone directory.

Closed Captioning

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is concerned that consumers may experience difficulty in receiving and/or viewing closed captioning on some digital television (DTV) programming, including high definition television (HDTV), provided by a subscription video provider.

If you have difficulties from Citizens Mutual Telephone Cooperative, you should ensure that the captioning function on your set-top box, if applicable, is turned on and ensure that the captioning function on your DTV is also turned on.

If you are still unable to view closed captions, you should contact the cooperative for assistance.

For Immediate closed captioning concerns:

Customer Service

Phone (24hrs): 641-664-2074

Fax (24hrs): 641-664-9780

Email: mycmtech@mycmtech.com

To file a written complaint regarding closed captioning issues contact:

Citizens Mutual Telephone Cooperative

Attn: Vince Tyson, General Manager

114 W Jefferson St, PO Box 130

Bloomfield, IA 52537

Phone: 641-664-2074

Fax: 641-664-9780

Email: mycmtech@mycmtech.com