

Pineland PROUD NEWSLETTER

— Winter 2020 —

Connecting the communities
we serve with excellence,
integrity, innovation, and a
servant's heart.



30 S. Rountree St.
Metter, GA 30439

425 S. Main St.
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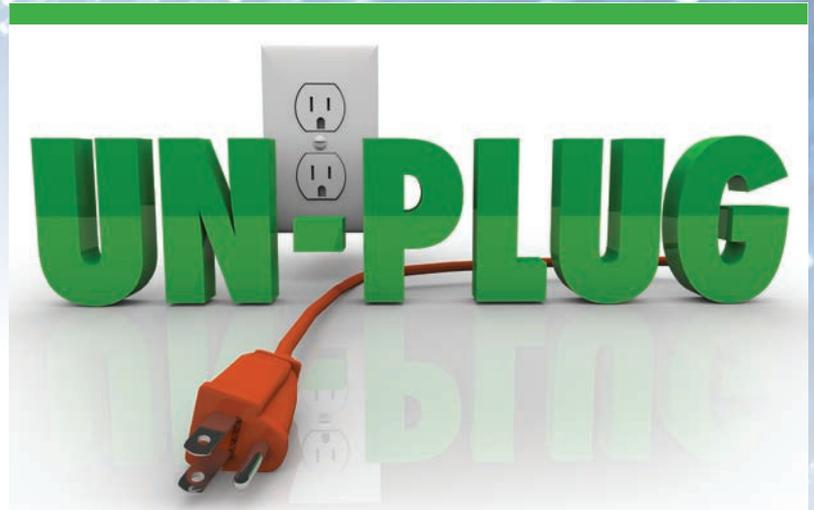


P.O. Box 678
Metter, GA 30439



912-685-2121
800-247-1266

WWW.PINELAND.NET



April showers bring ... black screens

Electronics are necessities in our everyday lives, both at work and at home. Today, everyone and everything seem to be connecting via a growing number of devices with the goal of greater efficiency and convenience. As storm season approaches, we're reminding you to protect your devices so that you can stay connected — without having to replace them.

As a child, you may have been given directions during thunderstorms: Stay away from the windows, put on sneakers, don't take a shower, unplug the TV, etc. While we can't vouch for the validity of all of these, we are reiterating one — **unplug your devices.**

If your area is going to be experiencing stormy weather, take the precaution of unplugging. While it's not a good idea to unplug (or plug in) any electronics during a storm, if there's enough time before inclement weather arrives, you'll want to take a minute to unplug electronics and appliances until the weather passes — including televisions, phones, tablets, gaming consoles, AI units (think Alexa) — oh, and don't forget about the robot vacuum.

Why unplug? Lightning doesn't have to strike your home directly to harm your devices. If lightning strikes a nearby power pole, a surge through the lines into your home can target anything plugged in. While surge protectors help to protect your electronics by defending them from general surges that occur on the power grid, they are not made to protect against the substantial surges that can occur with lightning.

So, the next time WeatherBug advises you that bad weather is heading your way, take a moment to unplug so that you're not left with a black screen after the storm passes.

Do Not Call list notice

Georgia residential consumers wishing to reduce the unwanted telemarketing calls from solicitors trying to get them to purchase, rent or invest in property, goods or services are encouraged to register their phone numbers with the free National Do Not Call Registry.

Consumers are placed on the Georgia Do Not Call List free of charge simply by registering their phone numbers with the federal registry. You may register your phone number with the federal list online at donotcall.gov or by calling, toll-free, 1-888-382-1222 or TTY 1-866-290-4236 from the number you wish to register. While being on the Do Not Call Registry may significantly reduce the number of unwanted solicitations you receive, it will not prevent you from receiving calls from:

1. Businesses that have an established relationship with you. An established relationship exists if you have purchased, leased or rented goods or services from the business within 18 months preceding the call, or if you have submitted an application or made an inquiry to the business within the three months preceding the call.
2. Recognized charitable or religious organizations.
3. Political pollsters or candidates for public office.

Federal law requires telemarketers to search the registry every 31 days and synchronize their call lists with the phone numbers that are on the registry. If you receive telemarketing calls after you have registered your telephone number and it has been in the registry for 31 days, you can file a complaint at donotcall.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222 or TTY 1-866-290-4236. You will have to know the company's name or phone number to file a "do not call" complaint.



Pineland Telephone has been notified that several customers have received scam calls from 912-685-8800. The caller, who falsely claims to represent Pineland Telephone, asks that customers verify their credit card number to solve a billing issue.

THIS IS A SCAM! Please, never give out your credit card number or any personal information regarding your account.

Should you ever doubt the validity of a call or email from someone claiming to represent us, please respond that you will call them back. Then, dial our office at 912-685-2121 or 800-247-1266 during regular business hours.



Springtime is a great time to clean and freshen up your home. You may not realize it, but your computer may need to be cleaned up, as well. Not just in a literal sense, but also digitally. There are a few quick-and-easy steps you can take that, if done routinely, can really change the performance and speed of your computer.

►GET ORGANIZED

Saving documents on your desktop not only clutters the look of your screen and makes things difficult to find, but it can also take up space on your computer. Think of your computer as a filing system in an office. To better know where things are located, create a folder structure that makes sense to you. Start by compartmentalizing things that are important: photos, financial documents, schoolwork and other items. Make a folder, name it something intuitive, then make subfolders and appropriately name them, including dates. For instance, you may have a

“Photos” folder that has subfolders for each year or special events like a wedding or Christmas.

►DELETE UNWANTED DATA

As you browse the internet, each site you visit stores data on your hard drive. These files can really add up over time and slow down your computer. Luckily, they’re easy to get rid of. Open your favorite browser and find settings or preferences. From here, deleting these temporary data files should be straightforward and is something you should do regularly. Every operating system is different, but with the click of a button, you can find how to delete these files online.

►CALL FOR BACKUP

Photos, music and videos take up a lot of space on a computer’s hard drive, and even the best hard drives eventually fail. It’s wise to always have a backup of your important files. Consider investing in an external hard drive, or look into a cloud-based storage system like Dropbox or Google Drive. Both programs work similarly, but Google Drive can be programmed to periodically back up your files automatically.

►SAY ‘NO!’ TO JUNK MAIL

It’s easy to let email messages pile up in your inbox. Over time, these messages, and especially their attachments, take up space on your computer. Go through regularly and delete any unimportant messages. Unsubscribe from promotional emails that may no longer be useful to you, and use folders to organize your inbox to separate priority, social and promotional mail.



Is your business as safe as possible?

Make sure with Southeast Fire & Burglar’s checkup

SEFB offers state-approved fire testing to any business, even if the alarm was installed by another company.

- A thorough visual examination of every device attached to the fire alarm
- A complete review of all components
- A confirmation no physical damage exists to the system

To learn more, visit southeastfbalarm.com/state-certified-fire-testing.

Protect your business today! Call SEFB for your alarm system assessment at 888-963-3473 (FIRE).

Join us for the Chick-fil-A race



Run, or walk, to support great causes by joining in the Chick-fil-A Vidalia Road Race on March 7. Race proceeds will benefit the Paul Anderson Youth Home and WinShape Camps for Communities.

And there’s a race for everyone: the competitive 10K, a friendly 5K or the Fun 1 Mile. Every mile supports organizations committed to helping the community.

The Paul Anderson Youth Home is a Christ-centered residential facility aiding troubled young men, including helping them overcome their addictions. To learn more, visit www.payh.org.

The WinShape Camps for Communities works with young people to enhance their Christian faith, character and relationships through sports, recreation, arts, Bible study and worship. To learn more, visit camps.winshape.org.

Spring forward
... safely

On March 8, move your
CLOCKS UP ONE HOUR



and
CHANGE THE BATTERIES
in your smoke detectors.



P.O. Box 678
Metter, GA 30439

FiberFocus Trivia

Mail or bring your completed answers to Pineland Telephone Cooperative for your chance to win a \$5 credit on your bill. Fifteen total customers will win! Mail to:
Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.; Pineland Proud Trivia; P.O. Box 678; Metter, GA 30439

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Email: _____

1. During stormy weather, what step protects your devices?
2. In Georgia, how can you avoid unwanted telemarketing calls?
3. When should you turn your clocks ahead one hour?
4. What organizations benefit from the Chick-fil-A Vidalia Road Race?
5. What is one key for a digital spring cleaning?

Please print your name and phone number clearly. Not eligible for credit two editions in a row.

Write one of the questions and correct answer on Pineland's Facebook page for an additional chance to win a **\$5 credit** on your bill! Five fans will win!

*By listing your email address, you will be signed up to receive monthly email correspondence.



Vicki Jo Riner
Laverne Bridges
Barbara Morgan
Julia McWhorter
Cheryl Rogers
Jackie Brown
Anne Hostilo
Steve Jones
Alta Dudley
Mt. Olive Church of the Nazarene
Becky & Roger Hooks
Tresa Mason
Donald Farrow
Pearl & John Shattler
Linda Dekle

Congratulations!
You are the winners of
Pineland Proud Trivia from
our previous newsletter!