

# ***CTV: cheaper option than satellite TV***

CTV is a local over-the-air TV service owned by your electric co-op. What can you do to get the most out of CTV? We interviewed one of our local TV antenna installers, Bridgete Blue from Welcome TV, for some insight.

## **Before someone gives up their satellite dish or cable, what do they need to know to pick up CTV channels?**

Before you give up cable or satellite, keep in mind that premium channels like regional sports networks, mainstream news channels, pay-per-view and the like are not included in CTV's channel lineup. (Check channel lineup on back.)

## **Can an installer help if the consumer has no luck getting a good signal?**

You can hire an installer to come to the location and meter the signal strength for over-the-air reception. In order to receive reception you need line-of-sight. We are very fortunate in our area to have three CTV towers (Frost, Jackson and Godahl) to draw from. Jackson and Frost have about a 30-mile coverage area, while Godahl has about a 45-mile radius.

## **Do indoor antennas work?**

Indoor antennas sometimes work for those who live right near the selected broadcast tower.

## **What areas cannot get CTV signal?**

It depends on your location. In order to receive CTV reception you need line-of-sight — no buildings, large hills, dense tree cover, etc. You need to either get through or get above what is in the way.

## **When is it time to upgrade an antenna?**

If you haven't replaced the coaxial cable, booster and antenna for more than 10 years, we recommend updating. You can use an "arrow" antenna or a four-bay screen antenna. Four-bay antennas aid in the problem of co-channeling in the humid summer because they are more directional; it reduces the signal from other towers on the backside.

## **How does a preamp or splitters help your antenna?**

Without a pre-amplified booster (costs about \$110) in this area you are going to get only a few channels at best. We need more power for our antenna to get all of the channels available. Splitters (cost about \$5-\$10) are used in the home to split the UHF signal to all the televisions. This allows everyone to watch a different channel without having the cost of individual receivers in the house, like with cable and satellite. *The cost to get your antenna working or adding an antenna can vary. Ask your antenna installer about costs.*

## **Is weather an issue with over-the-air reception?**

High dew point and humidity can cause interruptions in reception. Tropospheric ducting occurs when signals become over amplified, scattered, refracted or reflected from changes in the weather causing them to transmit farther than normal.

## **When should you install an antenna yourself vs. hiring a professional?**

Our best answer is to hire a qualified outdoor antenna installer to do the job right. We always recommend having a professional install your antenna. Using the correct size cable, the right booster and antenna for your area depends on your location from the chosen tower, not to mention the fact that we climb roofs, towers, etc. on a daily basis. You don't want to get hurt falling off your roof!

## **Is CTV free?**

No, paying subscribers make CTV possible. If you are not a subscriber, help make sure CTV continues to grow and provide low-cost, high-definition, basic TV service to the area. Call your local electric co-op today, request an updated channel listing and let them know you want to pay your share. They will add \$8 a month to your electric bill for convenient payment. Nonmembers can pay annually (\$96/year).

*CTV is jointly owned by four electric cooperatives: Brown County REA, Federated Rural Electric, South Central Electric and BENCO Electric; call one with any questions.*

# CTVChannels

2.1 TPT 2  
 2.2 TPT MN (Godahl & Frost towers)  
 2.3 TPT Life (Godahl & and Frost towers)  
 2.4 TPT Kids  
 2.5 TPT Weather  
 4.1 WCCO 4  
 5.1 KSTP  
 5.2 KSTC-TV  
 5.3 MeTV  
 5.4 Antenna TV  
 5.6 ThisTV  
 5.7 H&I  
 9.1 KMSp  
 9.2 WFTC 29  
 9.3 Movies TV  
 9.4 Buzzer (Godahl tower only)  
 9.9 KMSp (Godahl tower only)

11.4 KARE  
 11.5 KARE Weather  
 11.6 Justice Network  
 16.1 CTV info channel  
 16.2 Action Channel  
 16.3 Heartland  
 16.4 AMGTv  
 16.5 BizTV  
 20.6 Vibrant TV  
 23.1 WUCW 23  
 23.2 Comet  
**23.3 Charge Network**  
**23.4 TBD Network**  
**23.5 GRIT TV**  
 23.6 CTV Two (Canada)  
 24.1 Rev'n  
 24.6 CTV Two (Godahl tower)

31.1 Retro TV  
 35.1 LAFF TV  
 40.1 YouToo  
 41.1 ION TV  
 41.2 QUBO  
 41.3 ION Life  
 41.4 SHOP  
 41.5 QVC  
 41.6 HSN  
 45.1 Trinity Broadcasting (Godahl tower only)  
 45.2 Hillsong Channel (Godahl Tower only)  
 45.3 Smile of a Child (Godahl tower only)  
 45.4 Juce TV (Godahl Tower only)  
 45.5 Enlace TV (Godahl Tower only)  
 46.1 KDLT HD (Jackson tower)  
 46.2 COZI TV (Jackson tower)

**Most recently updated channels in bold (as of 4-17-17). Do a channel rescan to keep your TV up-to-date on currently available channels.**

## Who installs antennae in southern Minnesota?

Check your local business listings for installers in your area, such as:

- Dan's TV & Appliance, Fairmont, 238-2333
- DeGroods Appliance Company, Mankato, 388-9391
- Fairfax TV Sales & Service, Fairfax, 426-7217
- Midwest Audio & Video, Fairmont, 238-2233
- NU Current Electric, New Ulm, 276-5234
- Rogotzke Communications, Lambertton, 421-6041
- Schuckert's TV, New Ulm, 276-0772
- Town & Country Appliance, Windom, 831-3938
- Welcome TV, Welcome, 728-8767
- Worthington TV Service Center, Worthington, 376-4322

