

HCC Bits & Bytes

HoodCanal
COMMUNICATIONS



It's Your Call

It's a fact that most people are tied to their phones now more than ever! When we say phone, in 2018, the first thing that comes to mind is the ubiquitous smart phone. However, that wasn't always the case. Even just ten years ago, you would have immediately thought of a landline phone that was physically installed at a home or business.

It's hard to argue against the convenience and flexibility of today's smart phones. The smart phone is a portable telephone with the built-in processing power of yesterday's computers coupled with fast internet access. However, there are still numerous valid reasons to have a landline phone today. Below are just a few reasons to consider keeping or getting a landline phone.

Where we live. Mason County features a beautifully diverse landscape of forests, hills, valleys, water ways, and remote rural areas. This all adds up to a variety of challenges for wireless carriers to provide reliable cellular and data coverage. You may have noticed, that even within the Shelton City limits the top carriers have spotty service because of our challenging landscape.

Minors at home. Everyone has done it- leaving a preteen at home alone. After all, being home alone is right of passage for most kids, whether it was for a quick trip to the grocery store or the period of time from after school until a parent gets home from work. Not every parent has made

the decision to give their minor a smart phone. That coupled with spotty reception make having a landline phone the only practical solution. It provides the security of minors having access to 911 emergency services as well as the peace of mind that they can reach a parent if necessary. Review the [guidelines](#) from [Washington State DSHS](#) on leaving minors at home alone.

Seniors at home. Statistics show that more and more baby boomers are adopting new technology. That means they may already be comfortable with and using a smart phone. However, that's not always the case. The decision comes down to what a person is most used to and comfortable with (because in an emergency you need to keep it simple). You need to make sure a smart phone is always charged and readily available. And of course, reception should always be a consideration.

Legit calls. Spammers using auto dialers to hit smart phones and landlines alike. So, on this front there really is currently no advantage to either. However, using your landline number, coupled with voicemail, is a great option to receive communications from legitimate businesses and associates. Many businesses today make appointment reminder calls, account balance reminder calls, etc. Even school districts send automated calls for a variety of reasons including reminders or notification. These types of calls may be better dealt with and addressed at a later time instead of interrupting you at work or on the go.

These were just a few reasons why many find having a landline beneficial. Customize your phone with calling features from HCC and it will work even better for you. And it's affordable- just \$5 more per month for unlimited features. Give us a call today at 360.898.2481 and ask about voicemail, message delivery to email, simultaneous ring, and more.

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