

PONDEROSA NOTICE TO TELEPHONE SERVICE CUSTOMERS

Effective December 31, 2020, O'Neals, California

RESIDENTIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE RATES

Ponderosa residential telephone service charges are based on Flat-Rate Service. With Flat-Rate Service, you pay a set monthly rate for all your local calls. Your local calling area includes the communities of Auberry, Big Creek, Friant, Lakeshore, North Fork, O'Neals, Prather, Shaver Lake, Tollhouse and Wishon. Throughout the entire service area, our network provides services such as single-party service with voice-grade access to the public switched network utilizing modern signaling technology, as well as toll blocking and service connections, at a discount to California LifeLine* customers. Each level of service also provides access to Emergency 9-1-1 service, Operator services, Directory Assistance and a variety of Interexchange Toll Providers. Rates shown are subject to change as authorized by the California Public Utilities Commission.

Individual Residential Access Line	\$25.00*
California LifeLine Telephone Program** Individual Residential Access Line with reduced federal support**	\$9.40
California Lifeline Service with full federal support**	\$7.40
California LifeLine Telephone Program Toll blocking or Toll Restriction	No Charge
Federal Enhanced LifeLine and Link-Up Benefits*** Individual Residential Access Line (if you reside on federally recognized Tribal Land)	\$0.00

Rates are per month, unless otherwise specified.

* Price does not include the \$6.50 Federal Subscriber Line Charge and any applicable state or federal taxes and surcharges.

** California LifeLine Telephone Program is a State-funded program that provides discounted phone service to all residential customers who meet the eligibility rules established by the California Public Utilities Commission.

*** Federal Enhanced LifeLine and Link-Up program benefits and qualification standards apply to all RESIDENTIAL customers residing on federally recognized Tribal Lands. Customers may receive additional federal lifeline discounts of up to \$25 a month for basic home service and an additional Link-Up benefit of up to \$100. Applicants must still qualify by the same eligibility guideline detailed below.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA LIFELINE PROGRAM FROM PONDEROSA TELEPHONE

The California LifeLine Program (California LifeLine) provides discounts on phone services to qualified residential households. This consumer program of the California Public Utilities Commission helps to lower consumers' phone bills. Consumers must be approved before receiving the California LifeLine discounts. For more information on program eligibility, go to www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=2752#qualify.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE CALIFORNIA LIFELINE DISCOUNTS

If you think you or someone in your household qualifies for the California LifeLine discounts, please contact Ponderosa Telephone ("Ponderosa") at 559-868-6000 or toll free within CA at 1-800-682-1878. We will review the program and eligibility rules with you. We will inform the California LifeLine Administrator to mail you an application form in a PINK envelope with a Personal Identification Number (PIN). You can apply online at www.californialifeline.com using your PIN or you can complete, sign, and mail the application form and any required proof of eligibility to the California LifeLine Administrator. The application form and any required documents must be completed and returned before the response date indicated on the form. If you do not return the completed application form, or fail to provide the required documentation, you will not receive the California LifeLine discounts and you will continue to pay the regular rates for your phone service.

LIFELINE ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

You can qualify for the California LifeLine discounts by either Program-Based OR Income-Based methods. Qualifying by Program-Based means that you or another person in your household is enrolled in a public assistance program such as Medicaid/Medi-Cal, CalFresh, Supplemental Security Income, or other programs which can be found at www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=2752#qualify. Qualifying by Income-Based means that your household's total annual income is at or less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

ONLY ONE CALIFORNIA LIFELINE DISCOUNTED SERVICE PER HOUSEHOLD IS ALLOWED

Each household must choose to get the discount either on a home phone or on a cell phone, but not on both. Households cannot get the discount from multiple phone companies. Only one California LifeLine discount per household is allowed, except for text telephone (TTY) users, in which case a second phone line may be discounted. Households that do not follow the California LifeLine one discounted service per household rule will lose their discounts, and may be prosecuted by the U.S. government. Individuals can also be punished for giving false information to get the discounts. Penalties can include imprisonment, losing the discounts, monetary fines, and being banned from the California LifeLine Program. The discounts can only be for the primary residence. Discounts are non-transferable from one person to another.

California LifeLine participants may transfer their discounts from one phone company to another, but you may NOT have more than one phone line active with the California LifeLine discounts. If you choose to transfer your California LifeLine discounts from Ponderosa to another California LifeLine provider, then Ponderosa will charge retail rates for you to continue using your phone service.

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CALIFORNIA LIFELINE DISCOUNTS

In order to keep your LifeLine discounts, you must renew your California LifeLine participation annually. The California LifeLine Administrator will mail you a renewal form in a PINK envelope with a Personal Identification Number (PIN). You can renew online at www.californialifeline.com using your PIN or you can complete, sign, and mail the form to the California LifeLine Administrator. You can also renew by phone by contacting the California LifeLine Administrator. If you do not renew before the response date, you will lose the California LifeLine discounts and will be charged the regular rates. If you have questions about your renewal, contact the California LifeLine Administrator at 1-877-858-7463 or 1-888-858-7889 (TTY) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you believe your household no longer qualifies for the discounts or if your household is getting more than one discount by mistake, you must inform Ponderosa or the California LifeLine Administrator within 30 days. If you do not follow this notification rule, you may be penalized.

DE-ENROLLMENT RULES

Your household may lose the California LifeLine discounts if your household no longer qualifies, is already receiving the discounts (except for TTY), violates the California LifeLine Program's rules, or does not renew the discounts on an annual basis.

Please contact the Ponderosa Customer Care Center at
1-800-682-1878 or 559-868-6000 for further information and qualifications regarding the above services.
www.californialifeline.com

For general information, call the California LifeLine Administrator at 1-866-272-0357.
For questions on pending enrollment or renewal forms, call the California LifeLine Administrator at
1-877-858-7463.



CUSTOM CALLING

	Monthly
Call Waiting/Cancel	\$4.94
Call Forwarding	\$3.70
Remote Access To Call Forwarding	\$1.54
Three-Way Calling	\$4.94
Speed Calling	8 Number List \$3.70
	30 Number List \$4.94

There are cost savings if you order more than one Custom Calling Service. For example, Call Waiting and Call Forwarding are only \$6.48 monthly as a featured package.

ADVANCED CUSTOM CALLING *

	Monthly
Automatic Redial	\$3.50
Anonymous Call Rejection	\$4.94
Call Return	\$4.32
Calling Name/Number	\$8.02
Caller ID	\$6.79
Priority Ringing	10 Number List \$3.50
	30 Number List \$4.50
Selective Call Acceptance	10 Number List \$3.50
	30 Number List \$4.50
Selective Call Forwarding	10 Number List \$3.50
	30 Number List \$4.50
Selective Call Rejection	10 Number List \$4.32
	30 Number List \$4.50
<u>Usage Sensitive Features*</u>	
Automatic Redial	Per Activation \$0.93
	Monthly Cap \$6.00
Call Trace	Per Activation \$3.70
	Monthly Cap \$15.00
Call Return	Per Activation \$0.93
	Monthly Cap \$6.00

**These services require special central office equipment and will be provided where facilities are available. A discount will apply to multiple Advanced Custom Calling Features subscribed to at the same time.*

DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE (4-1-1)

Directory Assistance (DA) (4-1-1) gives you one free call (up to three listings per call) a month to Local DA for operator assistance in getting published phone numbers and addresses of customers in your area code and other area codes in your service area.

Each direct dialed call (Residential) after one free-call allowance: \$0.50

If you notify the 4-1-1 operator at the beginning of your request, you may receive up to three listings within our Service Area per call.

The following customers are exempt from Local DA charges:

Residential service when a member of the household cannot use the Directory due to a visual or other physical impairment. If you are eligible for a waiver of Local DA charges, please call the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) at 1-800-806-1191 or TTY at 1-800-806-4474 to request a certification form. Exemption will be granted to qualified customers.

DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Your name, address and telephone number are automatically listed at no charge in the White Pages of Ponderosa Directory and Local Directory Assistance.

	Monthly
Additional Directory Listing	\$1.00
Additional Line in Directory	\$0.75
Reference to Service of Same Customer	\$0.50
Reference to Service of Another Customer	\$0.50
Other Information in Addition to a Listing (each line)	\$0.75

NON-PUBLISHED SERVICE

If you prefer, you may request that your telephone number not be listed in the White Pages Telephone Directory or in Local Directory Assistance (4-1-1). There is no charge for this service.

NON-LISTED SERVICE

Telephone numbers for non-listed service are omitted from the White Pages Telephone Directory at the customer's request, but are available from the Local Directory Assistance operators. There is no charge for this service.

NUMBER REFERRAL SERVICE

Ponderosa offers automatic telephone number referral service for customers who have requested their telephone number to be either disconnected or changed. The standard referral period is 90 days for residential service. Extended referral service beyond the standard referral period can be provided for residential service for \$5.25 per month.

ACCESS RECOVERY CHARGE (ARC)

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued revised rules, which became effective December 29, 2011. These rules shift a portion of Ponderosa's existing revenue recovery to a new rate element called "Access Recovery Charge" or "ARC." The "ARC" charge allows Ponderosa to recover from end user customers a limited portion of the revenues lost due to FCC mandated reductions in intercarrier billings. The effective date for customer billing of the "ARC" charge was July 3, 2012. Multi-Line Business and Single Line Business \$3.00 per month; Residential \$0.00 per month.

NON RECURRING INSTALLATION CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

Service Ordering		\$20.00
California LifeLine Telephone Program Service Ordering		\$10.00
California LifeLine Telephone Program Service Deposit		No Charge
Service Ordering Existing Equipment		\$10.00
Central Office Connection Work		\$21.50
Premise Visit Charge	Auberry, Shaver, Big Creek, Wishon North Fork, O'Neals, Friant	\$58.75 \$42.00
Returned Check Charge, each		\$7.50

You will only be charged for services provided. Your Customer Care Representative (at 559-868-6000 or 1-800-682-1878) can tell you what your maximum charges will be when you place an order for service. California LifeLine customers receive reduced service establishment charges of \$10.00 anytime qualified customers establish or re-establish service.

FOUR-HOUR APPOINTMENT WINDOW

Whenever you enter into a contract with Ponderosa for service or repair, and it is agreed that your presence is required at the time of service or repair, Ponderosa shall specify, prior to the date of service or repair, a four-hour period within which the service or repair shall be commenced.

*Four-hour appointments are mandated by CA Civil Code 1722 (c)(1). That statute require utilities to inform customers of their rights to service.

LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE INFORMATION

California is divided into ten telephone service areas (also known as Local Access and Transport Areas, or LATAs). This part of Ponderosa's service area is called the Fresno Service Area, which includes part of the 559 area code territory. Service Area calls consist of local calls and service area toll calls

LOCAL CALLS

Your Community	Local Calling Area
Auberry	822,841,855,865,868,877,893
Big Creek	822,841,855,865,868,877,893
Friant	203,297,298,299,314,321,322,323,324,325,326,327,387,392,472,545,575,578, 593,603,712,770,765,797,822,826,841,855,862,865,868,877,893,900,940
North Fork	200,641,642,658,676,683,692,760,580, 822,841,855,865,868,877,893
O'Neals	200,641,642,658,676,683,692,760,580, 822,841,855,865,868,877,893
Shaver Lake	822,841,855,865,868,877,893
Wishon	822,841,855,865,868,877,893

LONG DISTANCE CALLING

Ponderosa does not handle Long Distance calling within or between service areas or to other states and countries. You may select a long distance company of your choice to handle these calls by *pre-subscribing* to that long distance company. This service, known as "Equal Access," allows you to make long distance calls without requiring you to dial a series of access numbers (please refer to your Ponderosa Directory for a map showing your service area and additional information regarding "Equal Access").

Interexchange Carrier (IC) Selection Charges (Per Line Per Occurrence when changing long-distance carriers):

IntraLATA Service	\$5.00
InterLATA Service	\$5.50
IntraLATA/InterLATA Service (same IC, same Transaction)	\$5.25
IntraLATA/InterLATA Freeze	No Charge

HOW TO AVOID BEING SLAMMED

In order to avoid having your toll carrier changed without your consent, Ponderosa can establish a Preferred Inter-Exchange Carrier (PIC) freeze on your account. A PIC freeze prevents a change in your preferred carrier selection unless you give us your express authorization, verbally or in writing, to remove the freeze. While the PIC freeze remains on your account, you cannot be switched to another carrier without your permission; in other words, "slammed" by an unauthorized carrier.

The PIC restriction may be lifted by either written or verbal authorization. No change of carrier can be made on your account until you lift the PIC freeze. The PIC freeze removal forms are available at any time upon request by calling our office at 559-868-6000 or toll free 1-800-682-1878. You can also set up a three-way conference call with your carrier of choice and Ponderosa in order to lift the PIC freeze. If you request to remove the PIC freeze by conference call, you will need to provide us with your password, or the answer to your security question. The steps required to remove the PIC freeze are in addition to the regular security and verification procedures necessary to change your preferred carrier. There is no charge for the PIC freeze service. If you would like us to place a PIC freeze on your account, please contact our office at 559-868-6000 or toll free 1-800-682-1878.

CASUAL DIALING

You may use more than one long distance company to handle service area toll calls or long distance calls outside your service area. These calls can be placed on a per-call basis with another long distance company by using company-code dialing. This is done by dialing 10, the other long distance company's 5-digit company code, followed by the area code and the phone number you wish to call. It may be necessary to make arrangements with some companies prior to using their company code. If you do not dial a company code, your pre-subscribed long distance company will handle the call.



California Relay Service (CRS):

CRS is a public service that guarantees all citizens access to prompt, professional and accurate communication through the telephone. Consumers of these specialized services, specifically individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking, can communicate on the telephone via text telephone (TTY), Voice Carry Over (VCO), Hearing Carry Over (HCO), Speech-to-Speech (STS), and Captioned Telephone in English and Spanish in order to more easily connect with family, friends or businesses.

How does California Relay Service work?

Dial 711 or the toll-free number listed below to connect with California Relay Service. A qualified Communication Assistant (CA) will ask for the area code and the number of the person you wish to have a relay call with. Generally, the CA will voice the typed message from the text telephone (TTY) user to you. The CA relays your spoken message by typing it to the TTY user.

Specialized Services:

California Relay Service offers specialized services for individuals who have difficulty speaking and for Spanish-speaking residents. Specially trained CAs are on hand to assist in these types of calls by dialing the associated number provided. Since CRS offers a variety of services, please refer to the website listed below or call Customer Care for more detailed instructions on the different processes used for a particular call.

Captioned Telephone:

Captioned Telephone is also available and ideal for individuals with hearing loss that can speak for themselves. A Captioned Telephone is like any other telephone with an essential difference: it allows users to listen to their phone conversations while reading captions of what is said to them.

Access to Services:

Both 711 and the 800 numbers are toll-free calls and provide access to the same relay services. If you are experiencing an issue dialing 711 to reach California Relay Service, please contact Customer Care.

All CRS and English Captioned Telephone Services are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Spanish Captioned Telephone Service is available daily from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. PST. Consumers may place relay calls to English-speaking and Spanish-speaking persons within California, across the United States and even internationally. By law, they must handle each conversation with strict confidentiality.

To place a call using CA Relay Service

Dial 711 or one of the toll-free numbers below:

TTY, VCO, HCO: 1-800-735-2929

Voice: 1-800-735-2922

Speech-to-Speech: 1-800-854-7784

Visually Assisted STS: 1-800-855-7400

Spanish: 1-800-855-3000

Customer Care Information:

1006 12th Street, Aurora, NE 68818

English V/TTY: 1-877-632-9095

Spanish V/TTY: 1-877-419-8440

california@hamiltonrelay.com

www.ca-relay.com

Captioned Telephone Service

To call a Captioned Telephone user, dial: 1-866-399-9050

Captioned Telephone Customer Care

English Customer Care: 1-888-402-4018

Spanish Customer Care: 1-887-330-0156

Special points of interest:

Equipment Distribution Program

The California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) offers specialized phones including: amplified phones, text telephone (TTY), Voice Carry Over (VCO) phones, Captioned Telephones, and other equipment to eligible individuals in California who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing, have difficulty speaking or any cognitive disability. For more information, visit ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov or call 877-546-7414 (voice) or 1-800-867-4323 (TTY).

Emergency Calls: Please note that 711 can only reach California Relay. In the case of an EMERGENCY you should continue to use 911. For emergencies, call 911 or your local emergency service TTY number directly, without using relay. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that 911 centers have a TTY and be prepared to handle emergency calls placed in this manner. California Relay will try to assist you in any possible way during an emergency. However, it is important to understand that relay centers are **not** 911 centers and do not assume responsibility for emergency calls.

IW SERVICES OFFERED BY PONDEROSA:

Inside Wire (IW) Definition: Inside wire (IW) is that portion of the telephone wire that connects the telephone jack at the customer's premises to the telephone company's equipment at a demarcation point determined by the telephone company in accordance with the orders of the California Public Utilities Commission. In virtually every case, Ponderosa Telephone Company (Ponderosa) uses a lockable Standard Network Interface (SNI) as its demarcation point.

Residential Landlord Legal Responsibilities:

IW is considered the property of the building owner. Under state law, residential property owners and not tenants are responsible for repairs and maintenance of residential IW.

If the building owner is a residential landlord (lessor), the building owner is responsible for installing at least one (1) usable telephone jack per rental unit, for placing and maintaining the IW in good working order, for ensuring that the IW meets the applicable standards for the most recent National Electrical Code as adopted by the Electronic Industry Association, and for making any required repairs.

Telephone Company Responsibilities:

Ponderosa will always be available to install or repair IW, and will work with you to determine whether a malfunction in a telephone line is located in your IW or in the telephone company's network.

Ponderosa will inform you of your options once it is determined that your IW is at fault.

Your Responsibilities:

You are responsible for reporting malfunctions of the telephone line to the telephone company. You will be asked to perform a simple isolation test of the IW at the SNI.

You're also advised that if you decline to perform the test at the SNI, Ponderosa will perform the test. If the trouble turns out to be in the customer's IW, you may be charged a \$30.00 visit charge.

Trouble Isolation Procedures:

If you report to Ponderosa that your telephone line is malfunctioning, the following hints can help you determine if the trouble is in your telephone and possibly avoid the visit charge:

- (1) Check both ends of the cord to assure they are plugged in tightly.
- (2) Try the telephone in another telephone outlet or try another telephone in this outlet.
- (3) Change cords with another telephone. If you have only one telephone and only one telephone outlet, you may consider borrowing a telephone from a neighbor.

If the problem is in the telephone, contact the supplier or follow the repair instructions on the warranty.

- Ponderosa advises you to unplug the IW at the SNI and plug a phone, known to be in working order, into the SNI.
- If the telephone does not work at the SNI, the trouble is assumed to be in the telephone company's network, and Ponderosa will arrange for repair as soon as practicable.
- If the phone works at the SNI, the trouble is in the IW. You have four options:
 1. You can leave the IW unrepaired. In this case, the IW must remain unplugged from the SNI.
 2. You can perform the IW repair.
 3. You can arrange for any vendor to repair the IW; or
 4. You can arrange for Ponderosa to repair the IW in accordance with the IW maintenance offerings described on the next page.

If you are a tenant (lessee) and the trouble is in the IW, you're advised that under California Law the landlord (lessor) is responsible for installation and maintenance of one (1) usable jack and its associated inside wire.

Inside Wire Maintenance Plan

Customers who subscribe to this plan are charged a monthly fee for trouble isolation and repair of IW and/or jacks within the customer's premises.

Home Wiring Protection Plan: Each line, per month \$1.50

The Home Wiring Protection Plan does not include reinstallation of IW that has been destroyed by fire, flood, or other similar catastrophes. Customers with non-standard wire are not eligible for the Home Wiring Protection Plan.

Premises Visit for Inside Wire Maintenance:

Provides incremental rates for inside wire maintenance services requested on simple inside wiring and materials, on a per-call basis.

During Regular Business Hours

\$53.75 for first 1/4 hour including travel time

\$17.25 for each additional 1/4 hour

After Regular Business Hours

Weekdays 4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m., and all day Saturdays

\$116.00 for first 1/4 hour including travel time

\$26.00 for each additional 1/4 hour

The Premises Visit Inside Wire Maintenance charge will apply when Ponderosa is unable to gain access to the premises if you are a "no show", or if you refuse to provide access during a scheduled premises visit. Other vendors also offer IW services in Ponderosa's service area. Please consult the classified ads in the telephone directory or in your local newspaper.

CALLER ID BLOCKING IMPORTANT PRIVACY INFORMATION

Any telephone from which you place a call will **automatically** transmit its number to the person you are calling. **Your telephone number can be seen by everyone you call, unless you block it.** Those subscribing to a service known as "Caller ID" will be able to see your telephone number before they answer their telephone. It is important to note that the law guarantees you the right to decide who receives your telephone number. We also believe you should be able to choose how you would like to have your phone number **blocked** – your privacy is paramount. That is why the law requires FREE blocking services. You have the right to choose **if, when and how** your number is displayed to those you call by selecting one of two blocking options.

COMPLETE BLOCKING: (Maximum Privacy Protection)

Complete Blocking is a FREE service that gives you permanent control over the transmission of your telephone number. Complete blocking blocks the transmission of your telephone number on ALL the calls you place. If you choose this option, Ponderosa will automatically prevent your telephone number from being transmitted to the person or business you are calling. There is no need to enter a code before making each call. Those with Caller ID units who receive your call will see the word PRIVATE displayed. However, you can still choose to transmit your telephone number on selected calls by pressing *82 (1182 on rotary phones) before you dial.

SELECTIVE BLOCKING: (Minimum Privacy Protection)

Selective Blocking is a FREE service that blocks your number from being transmitted and/or seen on the Caller ID units on a per call basis. If you choose this option, you must press a code before you make each call to block transmission of your telephone number. Press *67 (1167 on rotary phones) before dialing your call, and your telephone number will not be sent to the person or business you are calling. Those with Caller ID units who receive your call will see the word PRIVATE displayed. If you do not select a blocking option, you will be assigned *Selective Blocking*.

Important Note: Caller ID Blocking may not work on interstate calls. You cannot block transmission of your telephone number for calls to 9-1-1, 800/833/844/888/877/866/855 and 900 area code services, regardless of the blocking option you choose. If, for some reason, you want to report an emergency without having your number displayed, you should call the agency's seven-digit number instead of 9-1-1. If the number you are calling from is not equipped with *Complete Blocking*, you will need to press *67 (or 1167 on a rotary phone) before dialing the agency's phone number in order to block your number from being shown.

If you have questions about your choices or the effect any of these services may have upon your privacy, please call Ponderosa at 1-800-682-1878 or 559-868-6000.

If you do not receive a satisfactory response from us, you may contact the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) at:

California Public Utilities Commission
Consumer Affairs Branch
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2003
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298
Telephone: 1-800-649-7570 (Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)
TTY: 7-1-1 or 1-800-735-2929
E-mail: consumer-affairs@cpuc.ca.gov
Internet: www.cpuc.ca.gov/complaints/

900 or 976 Pay-Per-Call Billing Rights Statement

The following consumer rights are provided under the Federal Telephone Disclosure and Dispute Resolution Act: You have the right not to be billed for pay-per-call services not offered in compliance with Federal Laws and Regulations. Failure to pay Legitimate 900 or California 976 charges may result in INVOLUNTARY BLOCKING OF YOUR ACCESS TO 900 OR 976 SERVICES. You may receive a one-time waiver of charges for the first occasion of inadvertent, mistaken, or unauthorized use of 900/976 services originating in California. Your local and long distance service CANNOT BE DISCONNECTED as a result of non-payment of 900 charges. You have 60 days from the date of the 900/976 bill to dispute a billing error. If you orally communicate an allegation of a billing error via the telephone number on the 900 bill page, it will be considered sufficient notification of a billing error. You have the right to withhold payment for the disputed charges during the billing error review. No collection activity for disputed 900/976 charges will occur while the charges are under investigation. If the disputed 900 charges are found to be legitimate, the long distance company or the information provider may proceed with outside collections against your account for payment of these 900/976 charges. You can obtain blocking of access to 900 services at no charge at time of connection or within 60 days after your new service is established. To remove the call blocking there is a one-time \$5 charge.

9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE

What you need to know!

When there is a situation that threatens human life or property and demands immediate attention, dial 9-1-1.

9-1-1 will reach the fire and rescue, police, Sheriff, Highway Patrol, ambulance, paramedics, Coast Guard, and/or search and rescue. **Do not call 9-1-1 for non-emergencies; this causes delays in the handling of real emergencies. For non-emergency calls, call the non-emergency telephone numbers listed in the Ponderosa Directory for the agencies you are trying to reach.**

When reporting an emergency by dialing 9-1-1, your number (including a non-published number) and address may be automatically displayed on a viewing screen, regardless of whether you have Caller ID Blocking. This information enables the emergency agency to quickly locate you if the call is interrupted. If you do not wish to have your telephone number and address displayed, call the non-emergency number.

If you need to place an emergency call:

- (1) Make sure that no extension phones are off-hook.
- (2) Stay on the line. You may not hear dial tone immediately. The delay could be as long as a minute or more.
- (3) Do not repeatedly depress the switch hook, as this will further delay your call.
- (4) If you receive a "fast busy" or "all circuits are busy" recording, hang up and try again later.
- (5) If physical damage occurs to Ponderosa's equipment, it may not be possible to complete your call.
- (6) **9-1-1 may be available where there is a power outage on your landline phone.**

Place Emergency Calls Only

After a disaster, especially earthquakes, there is usually a high volume of telephone calls. It is important that you limit your calls to emergencies only. Do not call 9-1-1 or the police for confirmation of an earthquake. Listen to your local radio or television station for information.

Out-of-Area Contact

Select a relative or friend out of the immediate area to act as a contact for information about your family. Once contact is made, have this person relay messages to your friends and relatives outside the disaster area. If you have questions about this notice, please call the Ponderosa Customer Care Center at 1-800-682-1878 or 559-868-6000.

Communications Service Restoration After an Emergency

In the event of a widespread telecommunications outage caused by a disaster such as severe weather, fire, flood, or earthquake, Ponderosa Telephone restores telephone service beginning with Ponderosa's central office switch. Services may be limited until emergency communications can be established. Connections to emergency services such as 9-1-1, fire & rescue, law enforcement, medical and other related emergency services will be the next in line for restoral. Ponderosa will then seek to restore its equipment to provide local dial tone and access to Broadband services. Restoration efforts in some cases may be delayed until fire crews or power company personnel allow communications restoration work to proceed in the affected areas.

PROTECT YOUR CONSUMER RIGHTS

Help protect against unsolicited telephone marketing calls and faxes

Ponderosa is providing the following information to all customers, in compliance with State Law AB2134, effective January 1, 1999. There are various governmental agencies that publish information that generally describe telephone subscribers' rights under state and federal laws. This information is available to you by contacting the agencies listed below. As a consumer, you have rights to privacy and to protect yourself from potential telemarketing fraud, unsolicited sales calls and faxes.

The laws apply to live calls, prerecorded voice calls and artificial (computerized) voice calls. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has adopted rules and regulations, effective December 20, 1992, implementing the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). Different rules and regulations apply to calls placed to homes and businesses.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) also has telemarketing sales rules, which have been enacted to help protect you as a consumer.

State laws are in place to protect citizens who have had their privacy violated or have been victims of fraudulent telemarketers. Your state Attorney General, along with the Telemarketing Sales Rules, has the power to investigate and prosecute fraudulent telemarketers who operate across state lines.

PROTECT YOUR CONSUMER RIGHTS

Contact the following agencies for additional information

Attorney General's Office California Department of Justice
Public Inquiry Unit:
PO Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

Telephone: 1-800-952-5225 TDD/TTY 7-1-1 or 1-800-735-2929

Fax: 1-916-323-5341

Internet: oag.ca.gov/contact

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC):

Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20580

Telephone: 1-877-382-4357 TDD/TTY 1-866-653-4261

Internet: www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0208-phone-scams

National Consumers League's Fraud Center (NCL)

This is a private, non-profit organization that operates a consumer hotline to provide services and assistance in filing telemarketing complaints. NCL also forwards appropriate complaints to the Federal Trade Commission for entry into its telemarketing fraud database.

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. EST

Telephone: 1-202-835-3323

Internet: www.fraud.org

Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division
45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554

Telephone: 1-888-CALL-FCC – 1-888-225-5322

Internet: www.fcc.gov/complaints (to lodge a complaint) or
www.fcc.gov/consumers (to locate Consumer Guides including the “Unwanted Telephone Marketing Calls and the National Do-Not-Call List”)

Direct Marketing Association/Telephone Preference Service:

Direct Marketing Association
225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 325, Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone: 1-212-768-7277 Ext. 1888

Internet: dmachoice.thedma.org

If you suspect that your name is on a direct marketing list and want it removed, you may log on to the Direct Marketing Association Mail Preference Service (MPS) at dmachoice.thedma.org.

You can register for MPS two ways:

1. Fill out the online form with all required information, or
2. Complete the mail-in registration form. Print the form and mail it in with a \$3.00 check or money order (to cover processing), payable to the Direct Marketing Association, to the address on the form.

PROCEDURES FOR DISPUTED BILLS

If you believe there is an error on your bill or have a question about your service, please call The Ponderosa Telephone Company customer support at 559-868-6000 or toll free in California 1-800-682-1878. If you are not satisfied with The Ponderosa Telephone Company’s response, submit a complaint to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) by visiting www.cpuc.ca.gov/complaints/. **Billing and service complaints are handled by the CPUC’s Consumer Affairs Branch (CAB), which can be reached by the following means if you prefer not to submit your complaint online: Telephone: 1-800-649-7570 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday); Mail: California Public Utilities Commission, Consumer Affairs Branch, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2003, San Francisco, CA 94102.**

If you have limitations hearing or speaking, dial 711 to reach the California Relay Service, which is for those needing direct assistance relaying telephone conversations, as well their friends, family, and business contacts. If you prefer having your calls immediately answered in your mode of communication, dial one of the toll-free language-specific numbers below to be routed to the California Relay Service provider.

Type of Call	Language	Toll-free 800 Number
TTY/VCO/HCO to Voice	English	1-800-735-2929
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
Voice to TTY/VCO/HCO	English	1-800-735-2922
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
From or to Speech-to-Speech	English & Spanish	1-800-854-7784

To avoid having service turned off while you wait for the outcome of a complaint to the CPUC regarding the accuracy of your bill, please contact CAB for assistance. If your case meets the eligibility criteria, CAB will provide you with instructions on how to mail a check or money order to be impounded pending resolution of your case. You must continue to pay your current charges while your complaint is under review to keep your service turned on.

If your complaint concerns interstate or international calling, write the Federal Communications Commission at Consumer Complaints, 45 L Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20554, or email fccinfo@fcc.gov, or call 1-888-225-5322, or TTY 1-888-835-5322. Note: The California Public Utilities Commission handles complaints of both interstate and intrastate unauthorized carrier changes ("slamming").

ACCESS CHARGES

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for authorizing interstate access charges. Residential customers are assessed a \$6.50 monthly fee per line. Any questions regarding the interstate access charge portion of your bill should be directed to:

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554

Telephone: 1-888-225-5322 (or 1-888-CALL-FCC)

Internet: www.fcc.gov

Do-Not-Call Rules - What Consumers Can Do FCC Do-Not-Call Home Page

www.oag.ca.gov/donotcall

There have been recent developments since the National Do-Not-Call Registry went into effect on October 1, 2003. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) are now sharing responsibility for enforcing the National Do-Not-Call list.

Consumers who have not already registered for the list may do so at www.donotcall.gov or by calling 1-888-382-1222 (TTY 1-866-290-4236).

If You Are Called By Telemarketers, You Can Do The Following:

If you have registered your telephone number on the National Do-Not-Call list, tell the telemarketer that you are on the list. Make a note of the time and date of the call, and the identity of the telemarketer for your records. You will need this information if you elect to file a complaint; OR

If you are not registered on the National Do-Not-Call list, you can still instruct the telemarketer to place you on its company-specific do-not-call list if you do not want to receive further calls from that company. For your own reference, make a note of the date and time you asked to be put on the company-specific list. Having this information may be helpful if you get called again by the same company and wish to file a complaint with the FCC.

Filing a Complaint

The FCC and the FTC will both accept complaints and share information, so consumers may file complaints with either agency. In addition to complaints alleging violations of the Do-Not-Call list, you may also file a complaint against a telemarketer who is calling for a commercial purpose (e.g., not charitable organizations) IF;

The telemarketer calls before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m.; OR

The telemarketer leaves a message, but fails to leave a phone number that you can call to sign up for their company specific do-not-call list; OR

You receive a telemarketing call from an organization whom you have previously requested not call you; OR

The telemarketing firm fails to identify itself; OR

You receive a pre-recorded commercial message from someone with whom you do not have an established business relationship and to whom you have not given permission to call you. (Most pre-recorded commercial messages are unlawful, even if a do-not-call request has not been made).

How to File a Complaint with the FCC

The registration takes 31 days to become effective, so consumers can complain about unwanted calls that they receive after their number has been on the National Registry for 31 days.

Complaints that involve rules other than the Do-Not-Call list (for example, the rule limiting telemarketing calls to 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.) can be filed at any time.

You can file a complaint online at www.donotcall.gov, by telephone to 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY.

If Mailing a Complaint, Send it to:

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Branch
Consumer Inquiries and Complaints Division
45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554

Your complaint should include:

Name, address, and telephone number where you can be reached during the business day;
the telephone number involved with the complaint; and
as much specific information as possible, including the identity of the telemarketer or company contacting you, the date you put your number on the National Do-Not-Call Registry or made a company-specific do-not-call request, and the date(s) of any subsequent telemarketing call(s) from that telemarketer or company.

Consumer Private Right of Action

In addition to filing a complaint with the FCC or FTC, consumers may explore the possibility of filing an action in a state court. For more information about the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), about unwanted faxes, texts, and calls go to www.fcc.gov/stop-unwanted-calls and www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/limiting-unwanted-calls-emails.

For more information about our service area, rates, or products, please contact our Customer Care Center at 559-868-6000 or 1-800-682-1878.

