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Watchdog offers phone bill clinic

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The Citizens Utility Board will hold a free "phone-bill clinic" at Lincolnwood Town Center to show consumers how to battle a sagging economy by potentially cutting hundreds of dollars from their phone bills.

The consumer group's featured tip this month is how to get a \$20 CUB-negotiated credit attached to one of the nation's best long-distance deals.

The clinic will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Center Court in Lincolnwood Town Center, 3333 W. Touhy Ave., Lincolnwood.

Consumers often complain that they can't get reliable information from the phone company. At CUB's clinic consumers will get helpful tips about:

- the new CUB-designed Consumer's Choice local-calling plans that AT&T is forced to offer under a legal settlement. These are designed to save most consumers money.
- Illinois' best long-distance plans and how to get an automatic \$20 credit CUB negotiated with one of those low-cost deals.
- Line-Backer, a costly and optional AT&T service.

Participants should bring their phone bills to be analyzed.

"CUB experts will give consumers a free one-on-one phone-bill analysis to help them save potentially hundreds of dollars a year," said CUB Executive Director David Kolata.

CUB, an Illinois nonprofit utility watchdog organization, was created by the legislature in 1983 to represent the interests of residential and small-business utility customers. It has saved consumers more than \$10 billion by blocking rate hikes and securing refunds. For more information call (800) 669-5556, or go to www.citizensutilityboard.org.



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