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CUB can help with cell-phone confusion

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This year the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) easily showed people how to cut hundreds of dollars a year off their landline phone bills, but there hasn't been much to say about cell phones—until now.

Introducing the CUB Cellphone Saver (www.CUBCellphoneSaver.com).

CUB's state-of-the art online tool automatically analyzes individual wireless bills and has been showing users how to save about \$300 a year, on average. That's good news for people wanting some extra cash for the holiday season.

Residential customers of the five major wireless companies—AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile, U.S. Cellular, and Verizon—can follow four simple steps to upload an online copy of their bill and within seconds see a full analysis. You'll see the cheapest plans offered by those carriers, including your own, given your cell-phone usage. Already on your carrier's cheapest plan? The CUB Cellphone Saver will alert you. It also tells you if there are other ways to cut your bill, such as dropping an unnecessary service.

Remember, to use the tool, you must have online billing with one of the five biggest carriers. (It's free and even if you sign up for it; you still get a paper bill unless you request otherwise.) The CUB Cellphone Saver also doesn't cover prepaid service, business plans, or AT&T bills that combine wireless and landline service.

CUB has yet to find another free service that so skillfully analyzes wireless bills, as the CUB Cellphone Saver, which uses software created by a Texas-based company called Validas, Inc. So, if the CUB Cellphone Saver does help you save money, share some of those savings with us by donating to CUB. Finally, there's an answer for people who want to know "what the heck" they can do about their cell-phone bills.

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