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Saving Money On Your Phone Bill

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CARBONDALE -- Whether it's a cell phone or a landline, they're a part of our life. But it turns out many of us may be paying too much for it.

"Most people are paying about 16 or 17 dollars more every month than they need to be," said Sarah Moskowitz of the Citizens Utility Board, the Chicago based consumer group hosted a phone bill clinic at the Carbondale Civic Center Wednesday afternoon.

Debbie Stanley of Makanda found out she can save as much as 30 dollars a month, or more than three hundred dollars a year on her landline and cell phone bills.

"It makes it a little easier to save the landline when I'm gonna be saving, paying like half the bill," said Stanley.

Stanley was one of about 40 people who came to the phone bill clinic. The CUB says last year Illinois callers over payed their phone bills by more than one and a half billion dollars.

"Unlike the other utilities, phone customers have a lot of choices," said Moskowitz.

Some of those choices include getting rid of services you may not use that much.

"I have a cell phone so I don't need caller ID or the call waiting because I do have pretty much everybody calling my cell phone," said Stanley.

The number of people who saved money on their bills surprised State Senator Dave Luechtefeld who sponsored the clinic.

"It's important for anybody, whether you have money or don't have money, you still don't want to pay more than you need to pay," said Luechtefeld.

And being able to save money is good news that Debbie Stanley was hoping for.

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