

Share

0

Watchdog Group Releases Illinois Cell Phone Report

Print Article

5.0000/5 rating



Reported by: Jewell Hillery

Just about everyone has atleast one cell phone. And for many, the bills that come with them can be a bit pricey.



"I've had somebody tell me that their bill was \$300 for I don't remember the reason, but I thought that was a lot for a month," says consumer, Annetta Provenzano.

The Illinois Citizen's utility board, also known as CUB is a utility watchdog organization. Today the group released a cell phone report. It states that each consumer could be spending close to \$400 a year in unnecessary charges.



Jim Chilsen, CUB's spokesperson says, "we found that Illinois consumers could be overpaying by nearly \$1 billion a year on their cell phone bills."

CUB's report is being released just days after "Verizon Wireless," admitted to overcharging about 15 million customers for data usage they didn't sign up for. A Verizon spokeswoman tells us "we will mail former customers refund checks. In most cases, these credits are in the two to six dollar range."

In light of this error, CUB wants mobile users to pay more attention to their bills.

Chilsen says, "people can watch for five of the most dangerous pitfalls in the cell phone industry found through research." Those pitfalls, which CUB suggests you consider being more cautious of include, billing errors, insurance, directory assistance, roadside assistance and wasted minutes.

"We found that consumers had an average of more than six hours of calling time on their cell phone bills that were paid for, but never used," says Chilsen.

The organization also has some suggestions for mobile providers, like offering rewards for consumers with unused cell minutes.

CUB officials say ideally they'd like to distribute a cell phone report on a yearly basis.

Comments

#1 **Tavist** 2010-10-14 01:09

I loved the coverage I was getting from Verizon. Everyone around me not on Verizon, used to moan and bicker to themselves when they yet again, dropped a call, or couldn't get any signal at all. But the last bill I got fro my dear service provider left me numb. So numb (with suppressed anger), that I dished out the ETF, got myself a tracfone from the closest walmart at the time, and never looked back. That was five years ago. What are people still doing on contracts? It's blatantly more expensive, and the coverage, and reception I get from tracfone is even better than when I was on verizon's network only.

Refresh comments list

RSS feed for comments to this post.

You must be registered and logged in to post a comment.

Carlson Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser



Three years after a fire claimed the life of a Belvidere mother, fundraising for a memorial scholarship continues to grow stronger.

[Read More»](#)

Machesney Park Enforcing Sign Ordinance



Political signs often sprout up overnight as their candidates make the final push before the general election. But Machesney Park residents could find their yard...

[Read More»](#)

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>Fatal Car vs. Semi Accident Watch</p> <p>One man is dead and another critically injured after a car verses semi-truck accident Saturday afternoon. It happened on interstate 39 and I-90 in Rock... Read More»</p> |
| | <p>CONSTRUCTION CAUSES MAJOR DELAYS ON I-90 Watch</p> <p>There have been two accidents in less than two weeks heading eastbound along I-90. No one was severely injured in the first accident that happened... Read More»</p> |
| | <p>Local Marine Killed In Afghanistan Watch</p> <p>A 2009 Byron High School graduate has died while serving in Afghanistan. Read More»</p> |
| | <p>"Reach Out To Africa" Holds Fair Watch</p> <p>A local mission group is heading to Africa to save children and families, but they need our help first. Read More»</p> |
| | <p>Live At Five With The Junior League Of Rockford Watch</p> <p>Rockford - Clothing, toys and electronics, it's all at one of the biggest community garage sales of the year. Read More»</p> |
| | <p>Official Budget Talks Get Underway Watch</p> <p>Rockford city leaders have a busy day ahead of them tomorrow. It's the first day they'll hear from city department heads about potential cuts that... Read More»</p> |
| | <p>Motor Vehicle Accidents Claim The Lives Of Two And Seriously Injures Another Watch</p> <p>Rockford - Two people are dead after a multiple car accident this morning. Read More»</p> |
| | <p>Credit Card Act Loophole</p> <p>In 2009, Congress passed the "Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act." It was created to protect consumers from abusive and unfair credit card companies and... Read More»</p> |