717 Area Code Updates

Thursday, March 02, 2017



If You Have A 717 Area Code. You will need to Use an Area Code for All Calls

We want to make sure that you are aware of, and prepared for, a calling change coming to anyone with a 717-telephone number. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has approved the addition of the 223 area code to the geographic region served by the 717 area code. This is called an area code overlay. The 717/223 area code geography generally covers the south central portion of the state, serving communities such as Gettysburg, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon, and York.

Here's What's Going To Change

Because there will be two area codes serving the same region, it will be necessary to dial or enter the **full number, including the area code, for ALL calls -** even local calls within the same area code. For example, for a local 717 call, instead of entering 555.0123, you will enter 717.555.0123.

Important Dates

- March 4, 2017 -- Begin including the area code whenever you make a call. If you forget and dial just a 7-digit number, the call will still connect during this grace period.
- August 26, 2017 -- The grace period ends and all calls must include the area code. If only a 7-digit number is entered, the call will not go through and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again with the area code.
- September 26, 2017 -- New lines of service may be issued numbers with a 223 area code.

Here is What Will Not Change

- Your telephone number, which includes your area code, will remain the same.
- The price of a call, your local calling area, and other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- 911, 811, 411, 211 and any other 3-digit services in your area will still be reached with just 3 digits.

How to Prepare

Update pre-programmed phone numbers in your wireless devices as well as any text or email alert services and any call forwarding to include the area code.

Check other equipment to ensure the pre-programmed phone numbers include the area code. Some examples include: life safety systems and medical monitoring devices, fire or burglar alarm and security systems, security gates, speed dialers, call-forwarding settings, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, voice mail services and other similar functions.

Update personal or business checks, websites, contact information, stationery, advertising materials, personal or pet ID tags, and other important information containing your phone number to include the area code.

*Information provided courtesy of Verizon Wireless