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DTV.gov

THE DIGITAL TV TRANSITION

What You Need To Know About DTV

Hawai'i Digital Transition - January 15, 2009



What Should I Do to Be Ready?

You have three choices:

1 Connect your analog TV to a digital-to-analog converter box. Digital-to-analog converter boxes are in stores and have a one-time cost of \$40-\$70. To help you pay for the boxes, the U.S. Government is offering two \$40 coupons per household. (Please note that these coupons will expire 90 days after mailing and should be requested by early December 2008 to ensure delivery before Hawaii's DTV transition date). For more information on the coupons, visit www.DTV2009.gov, or call 1-888-388-2009 (voice) or 1-877-530-2634 (TTY). Plus, you should not need a new antenna if you get good quality reception on analog channels 2-51 with your existing antenna. **Or**

2 Buy a digital television (a TV with a built-in digital tuner). You do not need a High Definition TV (HDTV) to watch digital broadcast television. You only need a digital TV (or an analog TV connected to a digital-to-analog converter box). Plus, you should not need a new antenna if you get good quality reception on analog channels 2-51 with your existing antenna. **Or**

3 Subscribe to a paid TV service. If your TV set receives local broadcast stations through a paid provider such as cable or satellite TV, it is already prepared for the DTV transition. Cable companies are not required to transition or switch any of their channels to digital. However, if you have an analog TV that does not receive local broadcast stations through your paid provider, you will need a digital-to-analog converter box to watch digital broadcasts on that TV.

What Is The Digital TV (DTV) Transition?

Currently, some over-the-air stations are broadcasting in both analog and digital TV formats. At noon on January 15, 2009, full-power TV stations will broadcast only in digital. The DTV transition will affect those who watch free over-the-air television (through a rooftop antenna or "rabbit ears"). For most of Hawai'i, if you watch over-the-air programs on an analog TV, you must take action before January 15, 2009. Residents of Kaua'i will not make the DTV transition at this time and no action is necessary for residents of the Garden Isle.

Why Are We Switching to Digital?

Federal law requires the switch, which will free up the airwaves for police, fire, and emergency rescue communications, allow broadcasters to offer programming with better picture and sound quality and offer more programming choices, and allow for advanced wireless services for consumers.

For More Information:

1-888-CALL-FCC (Voice)

DTV.gov/Hawaii

1-888-TELL-FCC (TTY)

In Hawai'i: 541-2389 or 541-2390 or email HawaiiDTVtransition@fcc.gov