



All Digital TV is Coming.

TV broadcasting has been analog for over 60 years. That era is closing.

Soon TV stations will be digital. So will TV watchers. This Q&A is a handy way to understand what it all means to you.

Q What is the deadline?

A All analog TV signals will end February 17, 2009.

Q Why are we switching to digital?

A In 1996, after a decade-long study, the FCC recommended that broadcast and cable signals convert to digital. Congress enacted legislation that year. Digital TV is better for viewers. It lets broadcast stations offer better picture and sound quality and a lot more programming options.

It's also better for public safety and national security. It unclogs analog frequencies for use by police, fire, emergency rescue and first responders.

Q Who is affected?

A If you have cable or satellite service, you should not be affected. Contact your cable or satellite provider to see if you will need any additional components.

A lot of Valley residents have analog sets and watch free over-the-air TV using rabbit ears or antenna. Their sets will be obsolete after February 17, 2009.

Q What should analog viewers do?

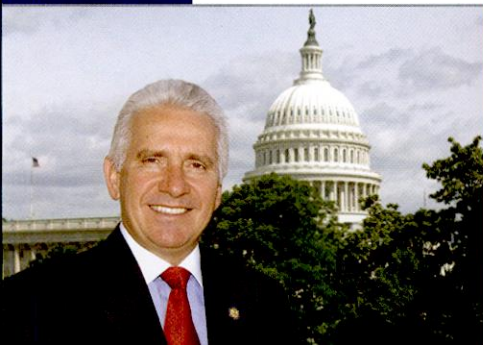
A Analog TV watchers will need to buy a converter, subscribe to cable or satellite or buy a TV set with a digital tuner.

Q What if you can't afford a converter?

A Converters cost around \$70. From January 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, you can go to www.ntia.doc.gov and apply for a \$40 voucher toward a converter. The limit is two coupons per applicant. It will be first come, first served.

Q What about parental controls?

A Controlling what your children watch will be easier. The "V-chip" lets parents use the remote control to block specific programs based on their ratings. Cable viewers can get a "lockbox" from their cable providers to block any specific channels they don't want their youngsters watching.



Congressman Jim Costa:

Alerting you to issues that affect the Valley.

For more information, contact Congressman Costa's office
or the Federal Communication Commission's website:

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/digitaltv.html>



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Official Business

TV is going digital *(sooner than you think.)*

Congressman Jim Costa reports on new rules for TV broadcasts and how it affects you.



All-digital TV starts February 17, 2009.

You won't get analog signals after that.
Analog TV sets will be obsolete.

Here's how the switch affects you.


M.C.
PRSRT STD

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

