

TELEPHONE RELATED ASSISTANCE

The following programs may assist you with local telephone service:

Maryland Relay Service

If you are a hearing person and would like to speak with a deaf, hard of hearing, deaf and blind or speech-disabled person, or you have a speech or hearing loss, you can use this service to communicate.

For more information on the free program and how it works, contact 7-1-1 or go to www.mdrelay.org.

Telephone Bill Assistance

Tel-Life is a federal program, funded by telephone customers, to help make telephone service more affordable for low-income customers. The program gives a discount to the cost of local phone service, installation and repair. The subscriber line charge is waived.

Important: If you make more than 30 calls per month, basic Tel-Life for landline service may not be the best service for you. It may cost you more money than basic service.

For more information check **NEED HELP PAYING BILLS?** of the **CONSUMER CORNER** area.

Extended Payment Plan

This program allows qualified persons to change their local company billing date to avoid a late fee. This program may help if you receive social security benefits, supplemental security income, disability payments or other government sponsored income assistance.

Contact your local phone company to participate.