



Connecting Families & Building Futures

TELCO BRANCHES WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS

> NEW YEARS DAY MONDAY, JANUARY 1

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY MONDAY, JANUARY 15

PRESIDENTS DAY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19



# FIVE RESOLUTIONS TO TRIM SPENDING AND REDUCE STRESS

With the new year approaching, now is the perfect time to make a resolution to save more money. These five tips will help you trim spending, beef up savings, and reduce stress.

#### 1. Pay it off.

Pay off your credit cards to save money. Let's say you have a \$2,000 balance at 18% interest. If your minimum payment is 2% of the balance due each month, it will take you 19 years to pay it off and you'll incur \$3,862 in interest. But if you increase your monthly payments to 8% of the balance due--much more than the minimum--you'll reduce the payback time from 19 years to three years and nine months, and your interest costs now are only \$433. You've just "saved" \$3,429.

#### 2. Conserve.

Small changes mean big savings on your utility bill:

- Properly insulate all ducts.
- Use programmable thermostats. Turn your thermostat back 10% to 15% for 8 hours each day during the winter to save as much as 10% a year on your energy bill.
- Use ceiling fans to reduce both cooling and heating bills.

#### 3. So what's a buck?

Grab a calculator. Add up what you spend on so-called "little things" that end up being budget-busters:

- If you spend \$1.00 a day on soda, that adds up to \$365 a year.
- If you spend \$2.75 a day on coffee, that's \$1,003.75 a year.
- If you spend \$6 every weekday on fast food, that's \$1,560 a year.

#### 4. Tune it up.

Regular automobile maintenance--including low-cost oil changes, filter changes, and tire rotation--can save big bucks by preventing costly repairs. Keep your engine tuned and your tires inflated to their proper pressure. On the road, stay within speed limits--gas mileage decreases when you drive faster than 60 MPH. Avoid "jackrabbit" starts, unnecessary idling, remove excess weight from the trunk, and combine errands.

#### 5. Transfer it.

Pay yourself first--set up automatic transfers to your share or money market account. Have your paycheck automatically deposited to your credit union account. Consider using direct bill payment from your share draft account for recurring payments like household bills, insurance premiums, automatic investment and savings plans, mortgage payments, auto loan payments, and charitable donations. Set up a Holiday Club Account. Participate in your employer's tax-advantaged retirement plan.

It all adds up!

\* Certain Restrictions May Apply

## **Five Steps to Organizing Your Finances**

DO YOU KNOW YOUR NET WORTH? OR HOW MUCH YOU SPEND EACH MONTH, AND ON WHAT? OR HOW MUCH YOU CAN EXPECT FROM YOUR PENSION PLAN OR SOCIAL SECURITY IN RETIREMENT?

A majority of the population will answer "no," saying they've been too busy with life to get a handle on their finances. Fortunately, there's a 5-step action plan to help you take control of your money.

#### 1. Set up a financial filing system either manually or online.

Keep separate folders for different expenses and records, for instance "Auto Expenses," "Insurance," "Mortgage," "XYZ Credit Card," etc.. There are also many online apps that will allow you to do this electronically.

#### 2. Gather records.

Look through your records to identify missing information. For example, you need an estimate of your Social Security retirement benefits. To request one, visit ssa.gov or call 800-772-1213. Gather copies of your health, disability, life, homeowners, and vehicle insurance policies, and get a copy of your credit report. You can check your credit report—the summary of your credit activity that generates your credit score—from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once a year for free. Always make your requests from the annualcreditreport.com website, the only site sanctioned by the Federal Trade Commission. Or, you can call 877-322-8228. Make one request every four months in rotation among the three credit agencies so you can monitor your credit report year round.

#### 3. Size up your situation.

Add the estimated current value of all assets, including your home, car, personal property, savings, investments, and retirement accounts. Next, add all liabilities, including mortgage, credit card balances, and any other outstanding debt. Then subtract liabilities from assets to figure net worth.

Then, make a list of income and expenses by reviewing paycheck stubs, online checking account information or your checkbook register, and credit card statements from the past year. Finally, track spending for a month by saving all receipts or recording cash purchases in a notebook. You also can find a spending plan or money

management software program that can help organize spending by category.

#### 4. Chart a course.

Set financial goals--long term and short term--and figure how much money you'll need for each. Create a target saving and spending plan that meets needs using your list of income expenses. For a month or more, track actual spending to see how you're doing, making changes as necessary

# 5. Brush up on money management basics.

Contact or visit Telco Community Credit Union for more information about how to save and spend finances wisely.



### Branch Locations & Business Hours

Asheville - Leicester Branch

710 New Leicester Highway Asheville, NC 28806 828.225.5919

#### Asheville - Tunnel Rd. Branch

36 Tunnel Road Asheville, NC 28805 828.252.6888

#### **Skyland Branch**

1871 Hendersonville Road Asheville, NC 28803 828.210.2090

#### Candler Branch

1141 Smokey Park Highway Candler, NC 28715 828.633.6604

#### Weaverville Branch

34 Northcrest Road Weaverville, NC 28787 828.645.6003

#### Hendersonville Branch

1452 7th Avenue East Hendersonville, NC 28792 828.595.9841

#### Morganton Branch

127 West Parker Road Morganton, NC 28655 828.433.0016

#### **Hickory Branch**

355 US Highway 70 SW Hickory, NC 28602 828.322.8566

#### **Branch Hours:**

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Friday: 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

#### Drive-Thru Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm Friday: 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

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Online Bill Pay
Mobile Banking
Current Rates
Latest Telco News
Financial News
Consumer Education

#### 800.222.1025

Talk To Your Telco Member Services Representative



### HICKORY BRANCH RAISES MONEY TO HELP A CHILD WITH A RARE CANCER

Our Hickory branch has been raising money for Greyson, who has been diagnosed with a rare cancer, Ewing Sarcoma. The Hickory team read an article in the newspaper about Greyson and his family and just knew they wanted to help. The team created beautiful wreaths for the holidays to raffle and also purchased Greyson Strong T-shirts to further show their support. Thus far they have raised over \$600.00 and are continuing to raise money and Telco will be matching what they raise, up to \$1000.00. Join Hickory in their support for Greyson and his family.







## Join Us for America Saves Week

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 3, 2018

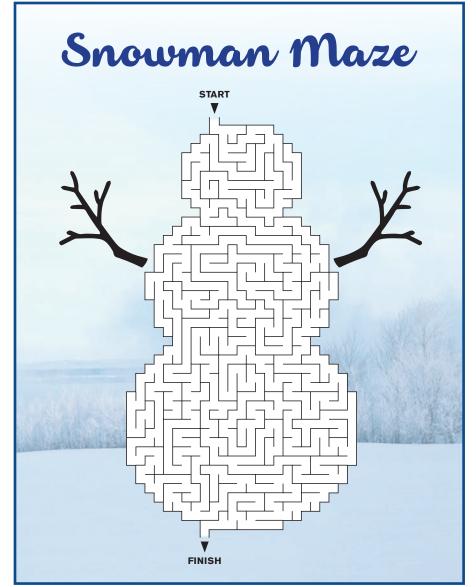
Telco Community Credit Union joined forces with America



Saves to raise awareness about the importance of saving money during America Saves Week. America Saves Week is a national effort to set a savings goal, make a savings plan, and save automatically. Join millions of others who are taking time this week to start or grow their savings.

It all starts when you make a commitment to yourself to save. Let America Saves help! Take the first step today and take the America Saves pledge to save money, reduce debt, and build wealth over time. America Saves will keep you motivated with information, tips, and reminders to help you reach your savings goal. Think of them as your own personal support system.

Visit AmericaSaves.org to take the pledge today.





### **2018 Board of Directors Nominations**

# TELCO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION NOMINATING COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

The Board of Directors of Telco has three (3) seats available for the year 2018. The Nominating Committee has announced that it has placed three (3) nominations for these seats.

Additional nominations may be made by petition, signed by at least 1% of the membership (269) and must be received by the Secretary of Telco Community Credit Union at 712 New Leicester Highway, Asheville, NC 28806 on or before February 12, 2018. Petitions must be accompanied by an agreement to serve if elected, include a statement of qualifications and biographical data.

If there are additional nominations, ballots will be mailed to the membership no later than March 1, 2018. Telco Members must return signed ballots by mail to the appointed accounting firm as instructed or the signed ballots may be returned at the Annual Telco Membership Meeting tentatively scheduled for April 10, 2018. With one or more nominees for each open seat, Bylaws provide that no nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Annual Meeting.

### You Are Cordially Invited To Attend The Telco 2018 Annual Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018 » 7:00 P.M.

Additional details of the Annual Meeting will be announced at a later date.