

# Digital TV Conversion

Resources to Assist Seniors

# DTV Quick Facts

- We are transitioning from analog to digital, NOT to HD.
- Most tv stations are already broadcasting in both analog and digital.
- After midnight February 17, stations will shut off their analog signal.
- Many stations have opted to transition early.
- There is talk about moving the date back, but no action, yet.
- Coupons (I'll let Francine talk about that.)
- Analog TVs connected to cable or satellite are fine, as are digital tvs, whether or not they are connected to cable or satellite.
- Satellite is tricky – many consumers do not get their local stations on the satellite, but rather on a separate tv with an antenna.
- Analog pass-through converter boxes will allow viewing of low power tv stations that are not transitioning right now, especially relevant in border areas.



# Best FCC Resource: [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)

- Extensive FAQs:  
<http://www.dtv.gov/consumercorner.html>
- Extensive consumer education materials with key publications in more than 20 languages and large print format: <http://www.dtv.gov/publications.html>
- Dozens of audio and video education and PSA-style files that may be used without asking for permission: [http://www.dtv.gov/video\\_audio.html](http://www.dtv.gov/video_audio.html)
- Outreach Toolkit: <http://www.dtv.gov/outreach.html>
- Request a Speaker:  
<http://www.dtv.gov/speaker.html>
- Spanish version of website:  
<http://www.dtv.gov/spanish/index.html>

# Specific Publications and Videos

- Simplified one-page explanation:  
<http://www.dtv.gov/transitionbasics.pdf>
- Basic one-page publication in 21 languages in addition to English: <http://www.dtv.gov/DTVOne-Pager.pdf>
- Troubleshooting Guide (20+ languages):  
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/troubleshootguide.html>
- Setting Up Your Converter Box (20+ languages):  
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/setup-converterbox.html>

## Specific Publications and Videos (Cont'd.)

- Setting Up Your Converter Box With a VCR (20+ languages):  
[http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/converterbox\\_vcr.html](http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/converterbox_vcr.html)
- Setting Up Your Converter Box if Your TV Has A “Twin-Lead” Wire (English and Spanish):  
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/setup-converterbox-balun.pdf>
- Watching DTV With a Converter Box:  
[http://www.dtv.gov/video/WATCHING\\_DTV.html](http://www.dtv.gov/video/WATCHING_DTV.html)



# Other Excellent Resources

- **PBS's "Get Ready for DTV"**. "Come along with Norm and Kevin as they visit several homes in a Boston suburb to prepare them for the change to DTV. Receive DTV how-to guidance and tips so you can successfully make the switch to DTV in your home before February 17, 2009. And hear the latest DTV news in the field from Maria Hinojosa of NOW ON PBS." [http://www.pbs.org/digitaltv/converter\\_boxes.php](http://www.pbs.org/digitaltv/converter_boxes.php)
- **National Association of Broadcaster's "Hooking Up Your Converter Box."** [http://www.dtvanswers.com/dtv\\_boxhookup.html](http://www.dtvanswers.com/dtv_boxhookup.html)
- Find out which stations in a particular area are "low power."  
<http://www.lptvanswers.com/>
- FAQs on antennas:  
<http://www.antennaweb.org/aw/info.aspx?page=FAQ>