



## Don't Trash Your Analog TV!

On Feb 17, 2009, television stations will stop broadcasting analog signals and will convert to digital. But don't panic - your analog TV will be able to receive the new digital transmissions as long as:

- your TV is connected to cable service;
- your TV is connected to satellite service;
- OR it is connected to a converter box.

Approximately 70% of the households in the Seattle area use digital cable or satellite TV which means your providers will convert the signal from analog to digital for you. You don't need to do anything!

The 30 percent of Seattle area households that still get their television signals over the air will either have to subscribe to a cable/satellite service, buy a digital TV or get a converter box.

### **Apply for a Converter Box Coupon**

If you are one of the 30 percent who gets your signals over the airwaves, you can get a coupon for a converter box from the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) between now and March 31, 2009. Households will be eligible to request up to two \$40 coupons to be used toward the purchase of up to two, digital-to-analog converter boxes as long as the initial \$990 million allocated for the program is available. The coupons will expire within 90 days of the date they are issued.

### **You can apply for a coupon in four ways:**

- 1) Apply online at <https://www.dtv2009.gov/Default.aspx>
- 2) Call the Coupon Program 24-hour hotline 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009), TTY 1-877-530-2634
- 3) Mail a coupon application to: PO BOX 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000. [Download a Coupon Application here.](#)
- 4) Fax a coupon application to 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632)

### **Where Can You Buy a Converter Box?**

By mid-February 2008, big-box retailers such as Best Buy, Circuit City, Kmart, RadioShack Corporation, Sears, Target and Wal-Mart will begin selling the Federal Communications Commission (Washington DC) mandated converter boxes. Eventually, NTIA's Web site (<https://www.dtv2009.gov/VendorSearch.aspx>) will provide a list of retailers that are selling the converter boxes. You may want to wait to apply for coupons until the converter boxes are actually available so that the coupons don't expire before the boxes hit the market.