

Since 1988, my wife and I have owned and operated the Susquehannock Lodge, located in Potter County on Route 6 between Coudersport and Galeton just east of the Pa Lumber Museum and Ski Denton.

In the last 15 years we have witnessed more of a demand for cell and internet service at the Lodge. Increasingly it's becoming a necessity with guests, POS systems, and bookings. Not that long ago our guests would arrive for breakfast or dinner and we would interact with them or they would interact with each other, but now we see them either on their phones or computers.

The cell service in our immediate area now is spotty at best. For cell service you would have to travel 3 to 5 miles east or west of our location to get a solid dependable signal. For internet we have Satellite service that we have setup as a wireless hotspot for our business customers which works well. But if you reach your bandwidth ceiling, which is easy to do with streaming movies and music, they throttle back your bandwidth which becomes frustrating for everyone. The service itself is expensive and speeds aren't that fast.

Potential guests that call now for reservations will ask if we have cell or internet and whether it is high speed. We have also experienced the local hospital wanting to rent rooms for visiting doctors, but once they find out they may not be able to contact them on their cell phone, we lose the booking.

We look forward to a more reliable and faster broadband network.