

Internet connectivity in the Hill Country.

A decent internet connection out here can be a challenge. If you live within the city limits of Wimberley or Dripping you should be able to get Time Warner Cable. Several of the outlying developments also have access to TWC. This is your best alternative.

If TWC is not available at your location you have several other options of a somewhat less desirable nature. Those are DSL(phone company), a WISP (Wireless Internet Service Provider), Satellite, and Cellular First, not all of the options below will meet the archaic FCC definition of broadband which is 4M down and 1M up.

Things to check when shopping: 1: What speed does the ISP guaranty? 2: If you call the support line does someone answer and if they do are they local or in India? Are they knowledgeable and helpful? 3: Do you have to sign a contract? If so *what guaranty do you get?* Your alternatives in descending order are:

DSL (Digital subscriber line) is what the phone company offers in this area. From the connections I've seen out here DSL usually does not meet the definition of broadband. If that changes I will update this note on my web site.

WISP (Wireless Internet Service Provider): These companies provide internet connectivity in a similar way that TV broadcasts. Performance and support varies a lot so be specific with your questions. I'm aware of Anvil, Texas Wireless Internet and Vovnet in this area.

Cellular: Most of the Cell phone companies allow you to tether your phone to a computer and get on the internet that way. Some of them offer a cellular hot spot as well. In some areas this may be your best option.

Satellite: is a marginal medium speed connection and is not a good choice if you use the internet a lot. Watching Netflix movies via Satellite won't work well. They have a policy called **Fair Access** (misnomer). Essentially if you use the internet too much for their liking they will throttle you back to an almost unusable state.

One of these alternatives should work and it beats dial-up.

Update 9/1/14 I've been seeing a Satellite company with some rather impressive performance lately, usually 12M down and 1M up. If Time Warner is not available at your location and you don't stream movies this may be a good solution for you. <http://www.exede.com/>

Update 9/6/2014 <http://www.capitalotc.com/fcc-chairman-united-states-needs-more-high-speed-broadband-competition/21788/>

Update 1/15 FCC redefines broadband as 25M down 3Mg up
<http://www.computerworld.com/article/2877933/fcc-redefines-broadband-itbwcw.html>