

Sun To Play Tricks With Communications

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

The sun may be peeking in and out of the clouds this fall in Kodiak, but that doesn't matter to dishes pointed at communication satellite orbiting above the equator. This time of year, just as in the spring, the sun moves behind the satellites and disrupts the reception of their signal.

GCI, which offers long distance, cable TV and other communication services that depend on satellite communications, says the disruptions will not affect services delivered by fiber optic cable or land-based microwave relay.

When cable TV outages happen, viewers will see a slow degradation of their signal, followed by several minutes of total disruption. It will then slowly clear.

The sun outages will occur at various times in the afternoon for the next three weeks, and will vary in length.