



## TESCO Nighthawk Zero Infrastructure AMI



Mid South Electric Metering Association 73<sup>rd</sup> Meter School

Tuesday May 6, 2025: 8:00 AM Jon Scott



# **Introduction**



## TESCO Company Overview

## **Prepared for:**



#### **Jon Scott**

Nighthawk Sales Manager TESCO Metering



## **Table of Contents**

- Mission Statement
- Overview
- Deployment Options
- Products
- Walker Cabin





## Mission Statement



## To become the primary outside metering resource for all electric utility customers



# Image: NighthawkImage: Overview





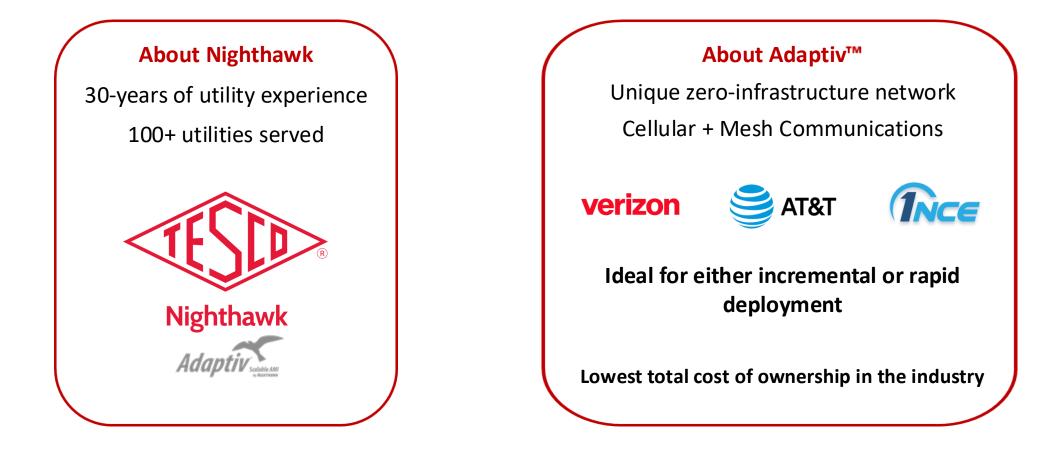








**TESCO and Nighthawk** are a perfect fit. The leader in all things metering now offers the world a leader in affordable AMI metering. Nighthawk is the exclusive home to Adaptiv<sup>™</sup>, your Solution for AMI Cellular Mesh! Adaptiv<sup>™</sup> provides the lowest ownership cost of any AMI provider.





## Nighthawk AMI is tailor-made for medium to medium-small municipalities

- Zero need to install and maintain costly infrastructure
- No server requirements
- No network administration software
- Easy to install and maintain
- Flexible deployment options
- Scalable to respect both utility time and budget
- Majority of systems are municipalities
- Almost 30-years serving our municipal customers





#### Flexible deployment options:

- Deployment partners with decades of AMI system installation experience
  - Assigned Nighthawk project manager who overseas deployment partner/process
- Self-install using the Fulcrum meter changeout software
  - Assigned Nighthawk project manager who trains on the Fulcrum software, deployment best practices, assists in early installation and remains a resource during the duration of the deployment





## **TESCO Zero Infrastructure AMI Overview**

#### Zero Infrastructure AMI

Adaptiv<sup>™</sup> AMI means no costly infrastructure to install / maintain

#### **Integrated Data Transfer**

Standards-based integration to utility billing applications

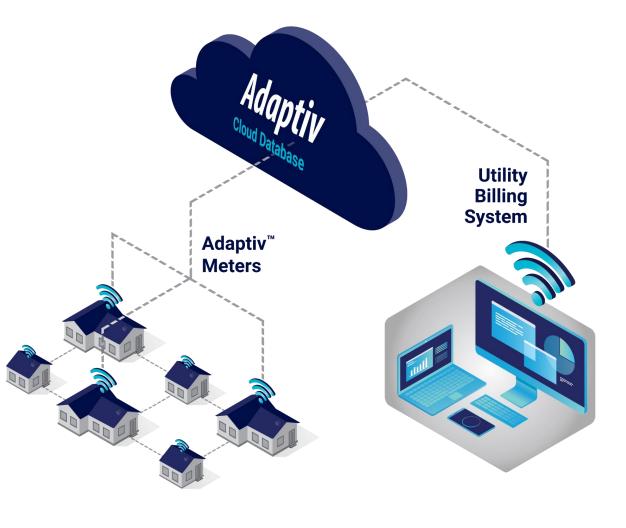
Multispeak, MV-RS, CMEP

#### **Seamless Cloud Software**

No hardware to buy or databases to manage

#### Secure, Reliable Reads

Secure communications for on-demand move in/move out reads on all meters



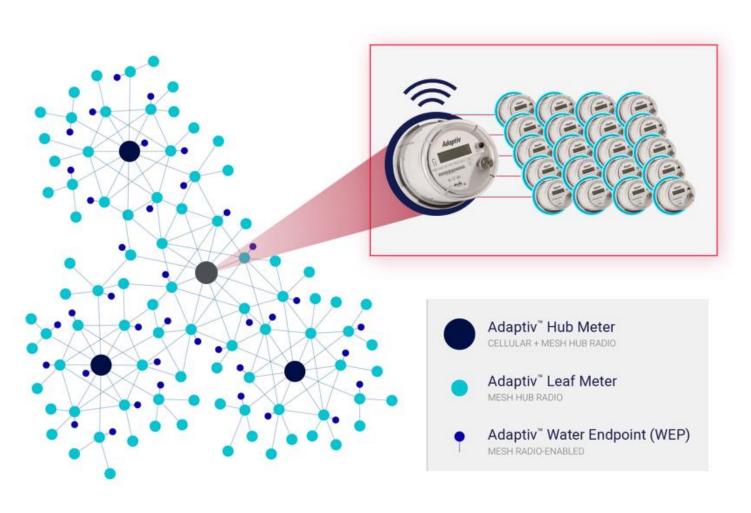


Scalable, self-healing, selfconfiguring network

Next generation high bandwidth cellular-mesh

- One Hub with cellular modem per cluster
- Several Leaf meters within range of hub via short-hop RF

Simple installation and maintenance



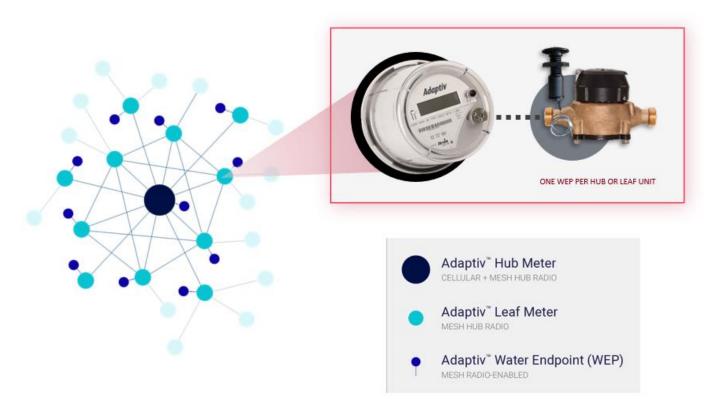


Water LINK sends reads via Adaptiv<sup>™</sup> smart meters

Scalable, self-healing, selfconfiguring mesh network

Built-in security and redundancy

Interval data and leak detection with exceptional battery life





#### Adaptiv<sup>™</sup> Value for Life

No additional charges for upgrades, maintenance or support for the life of the product

Over-the-air upgrades to firmware

Designed to evolve with the changing needs of the utility industry by enabling more features as required





#### **Database & Software Security**

Best-in-class accessibility and security standards

Secure communication via Thawte SSL

Available multi-factor authentication capability





#### **Network & Device Security**

128-bit AES encryption for all mesh-enabled devices

Unique AES encryption key to partition users' data

Protects against external tampering via:

- Content encryption
- Channel encryption
- Dedicated private network





#### Adaptiv Platform Overview & Device Compatibility

All Adaptiv devices contain a 2.4GHz RF Mesh transceiver connecting all devices, including HUBS

Cellular Hubs manage multiple LEAF devices

Population diversity: ~10% HUB to 90% LEAF

Electric meters available in all S Base form factors and classes

Device Type	Cellular + RF Mesh HUB	ERT Reader Cell+Mesh HUB	RF Mesh only LEAF	Disconnect option
Aclara kV2c	V			
Aclara I-210+c	V		V	V
Itron Centron II	V	V		V
Water End Point			V	











## **TESCO Zero Infrastructure AMI Overview**

#### **Lowest Risk Solution**

- Zero network infrastructure to install and/or maintain
- Low-cost flexible pilots
- Uses common radio frequencies (LTE and 2.4GHz) found in most households and businesses

#### **Most Flexible Deployment Options**

- Flexible deployment strategies based on your priorities and budget
- Solve problems with little effort or cost disconnect meters (prepay enabled), scope outages, monitor voltage, polyphase first, etc.

#### **Lowest Total Cost of Ownership**

- Zero infrastructure investment or maintenance
- Cost reduction for project management and integration
- Easily train your team to use the solution within hours
- Low recurring costs are predictable and controllable









## **Adaptiv Deployment Options**

#### Full AMI

- Typically small medium-size municipalities/cooperatives.
- Cell + Mesh
- Multi-service
  - Full two-way AMI for electric or electric + water (no water-only).
  - Gas remote reading is handled through ERT collection using our ERT Collector Hub Meters. NOT full two-way AMI for Gas.

#### Gap Fill

• Typically larger utilities to fill in gaps in existing AMI systems.

#### **Tactical/Targeted Solutions**

- Used for targeted applications like remote disconnect, remote reading, Christmas Lights, crypto-mining, etc.
- When dealing with a utility, can naturally grow into a full AMI system.

#### **ERT Collection**





System Design

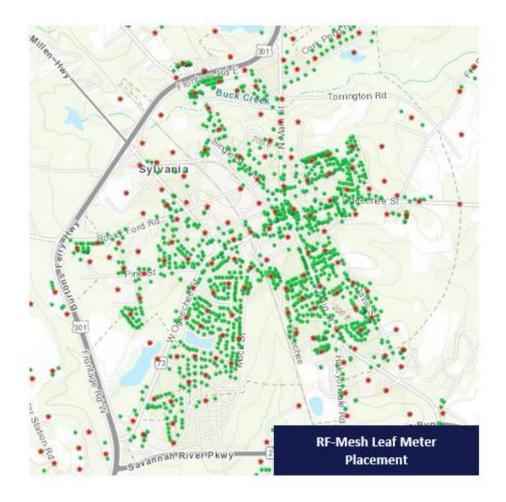
Plot	Overlay	Survey	Provide
Meter Locations	Cellular Map(s)	Potential Gaps	Rollout Guidelines
<ul> <li>Customer location data is plotted using ArcGIS</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Verizon/AT&amp;T maps are overlaid to determine cellular coverage.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>If necessary, a site survey can be done to determine actual data coverage</li> </ul>	

## Leverage Deep Utility Experience



System Design







## **Product Demonstration**

#### **Predictive Billing**

Know what's missing before it's too late!



- Immediate access to current customer information
- Detailed views of customer usage by day, month, or year
- Resolve billing concerns quickly and efficiently
- Remotely disconnect and connect meters

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## **Product Demonstration**

Outages and blinks are monitored daily,

managed easily and effectively

- Immediately notify utility personnel of a sustained outage
- Effectively monitor blinks and momentary outages with daily reporting

Hat

 Provide precise outage data for power quality reporting

\*Integration Fees May Be Incurred

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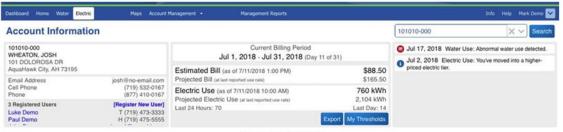


### **Product Demonstration**



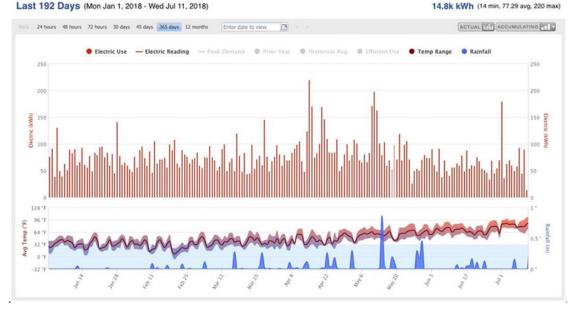


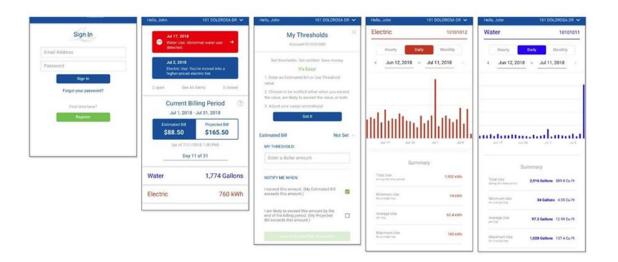
## **Customer Portal**



Account 101010-000

14.8k kWh (14 min, 77.29 avg, 220 max)



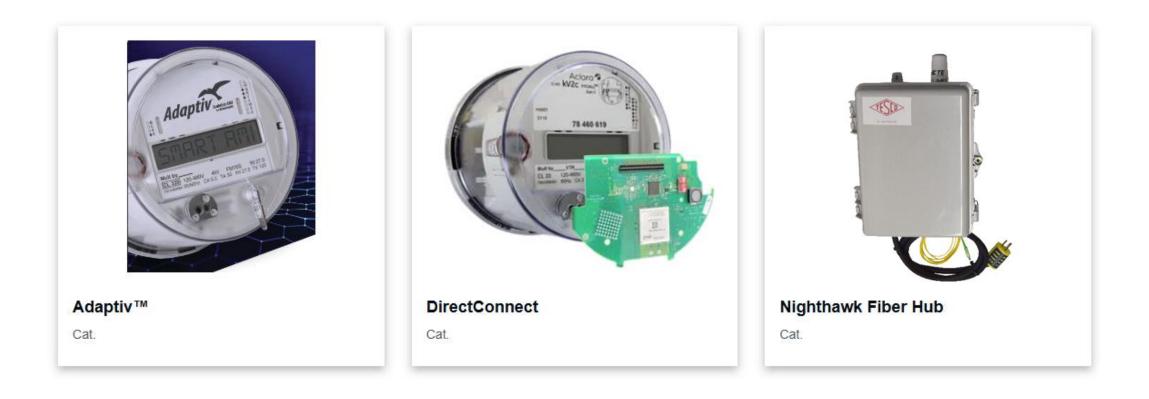








Zero Infrastructure AMI Advanced communication solutions such as Adaptiv<sup>™</sup>, DirectConnect, and Fiber Hubs—providing AMI capabilities without infrastructure buildout.





## New Products: DirectConnect

#### Launched August 2024



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TESCO Launches Nighthawk DirectConnect<sup>™</sup>: Secure LTE, Solving AMI Integration, and Interoperability Challenges



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NEWS PROVIDED BY TESCO - The Eastern Specialty Company -Aug 26, 2024, 17:06 ET

BRISTOL, Pa., Aug. 26, 2024 /PRNewswire/ – TESCO - The Eastern Specialty Company, a leader in innovative metering solutions, is proud to introduce the Nighthawk DirectConnect<sup>\*</sup>, a game-changing product designed to address the most pressing challenges faced by utility companies today. As utilities continue to modernize and expand their infrastructure, Nighthawk DirectConnect<sup>\*</sup> sets a new standard for reliability, security, and interoperability in metering technology.

Utility companies are increasingly challenged by a lack of interoperability across systems, particularly with older meters that are incompatible with newer technologies like the Itron MV-90. Additionally, as cellular carriers phase out support for older networks, utilities are left vulnerable without technical support, leading to potential security risks such as data leaks and breaches. These issues are further compounded by AMI voids, where inconsistent data from dropped connections can result in inaccurate meter readings and system inefficiencies. TESCO understands these challenges and remains committed to providing reliable, secure solutions that ensure seamless connectivity, as long as the signal is available.

Innovating the Future: Nighthawk DirectConnect

In response to these challenges, TESCO introduces Nighthawk DirectConnect<sup>®</sup>, a revolutionary product





## Compatible with all data acquisition software that supports TCP/IP connections





Introducing Nighthawk DirectConnect TCP/IP connectivity on the Aclara kV2c: Connects directly to the meter's C12.19 data structure

Connects directly with Itron MV-90, Aclara MeterMate, Trilliant PrimeRead, or Trilliant UnitySuite data acquisition software

Robust, secure, and efficient bidirectional message delivery mechanism

Utilizes same proven LTE hardware as Adaptiv HUB solutions (less RF mesh module) - Cellular devices only

Full data retrieval

Features such as last gasp, modem configuration and firmware update supported

Can use MeterMate to update meter firmware and configuration

Compatible with Nighthawk kV2c meters – full meter functions supported

Itron Poly to follow



Does not require any middleware

• Stand alone solution that does not require Adaptiv HES or other Adaptiv endpoints

No recurring fees from Nighthawk. Utilize existing utility private contract with AT&T or Verizon

- Customer provides SIMs
- Other carriers can be supported
  - Other carriers can be supported with purchase commitments
  - Requires testing and certification

#### Warranty Term: 1 year





## Nighthawk DirectConnect: Module Specifications

protocols	TCP/IP
modulation	OFDM (Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplex)
data rate	LTE Cat-1 (5 Mbps ↑, 10 Mbps↓)
frequency band	LTE Bands 2, 4, and 12 or 13
transmit EIRP	+20 dBm (including antenna gain)
sensitivity	-103 dBm (@ 1% PER; incl. antenna gain)

	, & Environmental
burden (including module)	• 120 ∨: 1.3 W • 240 ∨: 1.6 W • 480 ∨: 2.4 W
S-Base	<ul> <li>6.95"/17.65 cm (diam). x</li> <li>4.38"/11.11 cm (D)</li> <li>4 lbs / 1.8 kg net</li> </ul>
temperature	-22° F / -30° C to +158°F / +70° C
humidity	5 to 95% non-condensing

connectivity	AT&T or Verizon LTE cellular
security	ANSI C12.22 128-bit AES/EAX' (combined encryption/authentication)
memory	40 kB
clock synch	to LTE network
firmware	over-the-air upgradable
oower outage & restoration reporting	aggregated real-time reporting

radio emissions	<ul> <li>FCC Part 15 Class A</li> <li>Industry Canada ICES-003 Class A</li> </ul>
device IDs	<ul> <li>FCC ID: RI7LE910NAV2</li> <li>IC ID: 5131A-LE910NAV2</li> </ul>
safety	<ul><li>ANSI C37.90.1</li><li>ANSI C62.41</li></ul>
metrology	ANSI C12.1     ANSI C12.18     ANSI C12.18     ANSI C12.19     ANSI C12.21



Serial Connection	TEST
Serial Port	NIGHTHAWK
Baud Rate 9600 V	A TESCO COMPANY
APN	Signal Strength
Set APN Read APN	Read



## **New Products: Fiber Hub**

#### Launched January 2025



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TESCO® Metering Introduces the Nighthawk Fiber Hub: Revolutionizing Utility Infrastructure with Advanced Fiber Mesh Technology

NEWS PROVIDED BY TESCO - The Eastern Specialty Company – Jan 15, 2025, 12:14 ET



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BRISTOL, Pa., Jan. 15, 2025 /PRNewswire/ – TESCO<sup>\*</sup> Metering, the trusted name in metering solutions since 1904, is proud to announce the launch of the **Nighthawk Fiber Hub**, a groundbreaking solution for utilities leveraging fiber networks throughout their service territories. This innovative device is designed to provide high bandwidth backhaul for clusters of over 20 LEAF devices, with a maximum HUB capacity of 150 LEAFs. With unmatched scalability and reliability, the Nighthawk Fiber Hub is set to redefine network infrastructure for utilities managing electric and water systems.

"The Nighthawk Fiber Hub represents the next generation of utility communication technology," said Tom Lawton, President & CEO at TESCO<sup>®</sup> Metering. "Its advanced capabilities, including a self-healing, selfconfiguring RF mesh network, empower utilities to efficiently manage their infrastructure while reducing operational costs and improving service reliability."

Key Features and Benefits

 Superior Connectivity: The Nighthawk Fiber Hub utilizes high-bandwidth



TESCO Nighthawk Fiber Hub

fiber backhaul for seamless integration with

customer-deployed Passive Optical Networks (PON) or any copper Ethernet interface, ensuring robust connectivity across a wide



## **Nighthawk Fiber Hub**

The Nighthawk Ethernet HUB product is a selfcontained mesh HUB device with a wired Ethernet uplink.

- Fiber hub is Adaptiv compatible uses same Synapse mesh module
- Acts as a collector for multiple devices
- Technically an infrastructure device

"Fiber" is used because the initial product offering has been designed to work with customer deployed PON networks

- With further development, network uplink could be connected to any copper Ethernet interface
- Circuitry included to support cellular based version (replaces PON) – reduces operating costs (less cellular outtakes)

Customer assisted testing and validation ongoing





## **Nighthawk Fiber Hub**

Scalable, self-healing, self-configuring RF Mesh network

Utilize High bandwidth Fiber backhaul

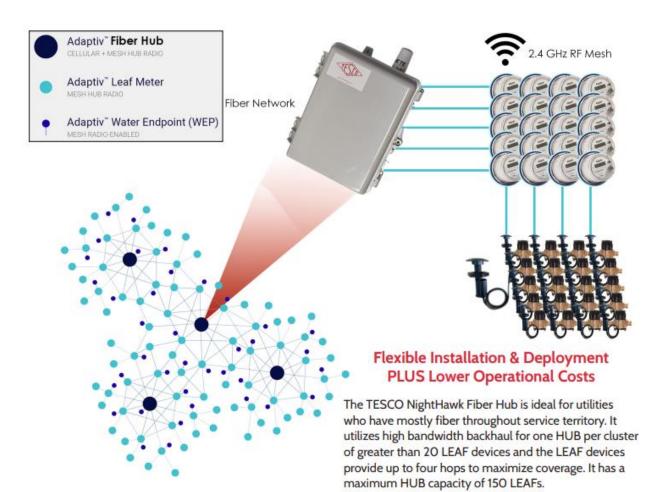
One HUB per cluster of greater than 20 LEAF devices – electric and water

LEAF devices provide up to 4 hops to maximize coverage

Built-in security and redundancy

Water interval data and leak detection with exceptional battery life

Simple installation and maintenance





## Nighthawk Fiber Hub Use Cases

Best For Fiber-Dominant Utility Networks



Federal Incentives Driving Rural Fiber-To-Home

Utilities Seeking Applications for Existing Fiber Allows For Network Performance Tuning



Pole-Mounted Device Improves Range

Allows For Stranded Device Network Access Validation Testing To Be Confirmed



Connect > 50 Mesh Devices Height is Our Friend Standard Hub = 10-20 LEAFs Max Hub Capacity = 150 LEAFs

## **Nighthawk Fiber Hub Specifications**

#### Utilize High Bandwidth Backhaul Without Adding New Infrastructure

#### **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Power Supply: 120/240 VAC input with a locking power cord

Size: 15.5" x 10" x 6.875" (compact for wall or pole mounting)

Operating Temperature: -4°F to 149°F (-20°C to +65°C)

External I/O: 12V DC output for downstream devices (optional)

#### **Network Connection:**

**TESCO METERING** 

- Primary Uplink: RJ-45 Sealed Connector – 100Base-TX Ethernet
- Future Expansion: Support for cellular-based uplink
  to replace fiber if needed

#### Mesh Communication:

- 2.4 GHz RF Mesh Antenna (Supports greater than 20 LEAF devices per hub)
- Supports up to three (3) hops to maximize coverage

**Processor:** ST Micro STM32F767ZIT6 (Supports firmware updates over-the-air)

Security & Encryption: End-to-end encryption for data security

**Battery Backup:** 10-minute rechargeable backup for lastgasp outage transmissions

LED Status Indicators: Power, network uplink, & alarm status



**Pole Mount Option** 















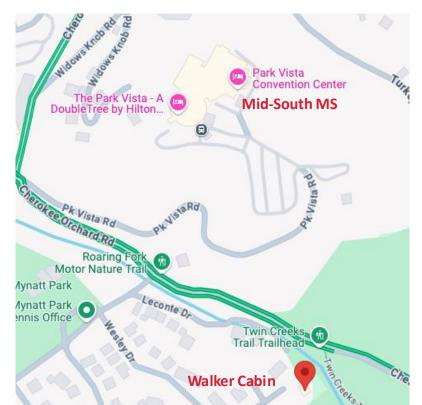
## **Come Relax with Us after a Day at Mid-South!**

#### WHERE

The Walker Cabin, Bottom of the hill from the Park Vista; 872 Wesley Dr, Gatlinburg

#### **WHAT**

Corn Hole, Games, Snacks, Dinner, Beer, Wine & Drinks and talking about everything from hunting to Meters – of course!





#### REACH OUT to anyone on our team if you have any questions Tom Lawton (215) 688-0298 Vernon White (215) 485-0060 Jon Scott (404) 451-8444 John Kretzschmar (864) 590-2883 Harold Kennedy (601) 454-7085



## **Thank You!**

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