

Connections

MARCH 2025



Win a \$25 Credit on Your Bill

Look for your account number hidden somewhere in our newsletter. When you find it, let our office know by March 19th, and you'll get \$25 off your next bill! Call 320-986-2013 or email rtaoffice@runestone.com.

Contact Us

100 Runestone Drive / PO Box 336
Hoffman, MN 56339
Phone: 320-986-2013

Office Hours: M-F 8 am to 4:30 pm

Email: rtaoffice@runestone.com

24/7 HelpDesk for Internet
Outages and Technical Support:
320-986-6655

helpdesk@runestone.net

Visit Us: www.runestone.net

Find Us:   

Review Us
on Google



Please let others know about your experience as a Runestone Telecom customer. Scan this code and leave a review on Google. Thanks!

Runestone
Telecom Association

FIBER ALWAYS WINS



STAY ON TEAM FIBER FOR UNBEATABLE INTERNET SPEED AND RELIABILITY

Fiber Internet brings much more to the game than 5G home Internet ever will. So, stick with fiber Internet to enjoy:

- **Winning speeds** – Up to 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps) for buffering-free streaming
- **Winning reliability** – 99.9% uptime for a connection to count on for big March games and more
- **Winning customer experience** – Unlimited usage with no data caps or throttling

It's a slam dunk. Fiber Internet always wins, and you deserve to be on the winning team. (5G wireless home Internet isn't even in the same league.)

CALL 320-986-2013 FOR MORE STATS

Our Crews Work Year Round

Snow and cold temps don't stop our crews. When the ground is too frozen to lay fiber, they always have something to do. The old wireless equipment is obsolete now that we have fiber in the ground around Herman.



Wood Ducks and WiFi

One of our customers shared this amazing photo of a wood duck's nesting box on Lake Amelia. Thank you, Alan!

"Runestone Telecom has great Internet service that allowed me to capture this picture inside a wood duck nesting box using a WiFi connection. Thank you to the Runestone team for providing this great service." — Alan Macht

**Have something to share?
Send it to Dawn at feedback@runestone.net.**



Hot Bounty on Local Gophers

If you grew up in a rural farming community or now live in one, you may be familiar with the trapping of gophers. These animals can be a gold mine to trappers, as townships may pay well for the evidence of a gopher who has met its demise.

Gophers don't just wreak havoc in lawns, ditches, and fields with their mounds of soil, they also create major problems underground. While they do a very good job producing tunnels that aerate the packed earth, their soil mounds can also damage farm and lawn equipment. Not only are they nature's menace on the surface, but they can cause expensive problems underground to buried fiber-optic lines, leading to major disruptions to Internet services.

When crews plow the fiber-optic cables into the ground, they carve into the earth, creating easy access for the gophers to the cable. 00000781-4 Even though the delicate glass wires are encased in rodent-resistant armor protection, this may be no match for the generations of gophers who have figured out how to chew through fiber lines over the years.

These menacing creatures may think they're invincible, but you can help reduce their population by taking advantage of our Gopher Bounty Program. Runestone Telecom works with the local townships by matching bounty dollars for each gopher trapped in our service area. **Only current Runestone members or their children are eligible.** Townships are responsible for paying the gopher bounty to the individuals. Runestone Telecom does not pay the individuals directly but will reimburse the township upon request.

Contact your local township for details on how to exchange your gopher feet for cash. Please do not bring your gophers to our Runestone Telecom office.

Unclaimed Capital Credit Checks

The following is a list of previous members with an outstanding Capital Credit Check. Please have them contact our office at 320-986-2013.

Barrett

Barrett Locker c/o Stephen J Bayerl
Citizen's Agency Barrett
Harris, Gary & Lynda
Harris, Kevin
Jacobson, Mrs Odin c/o
Jerry Jacobson
Kezar, Melanie
Ober, Lori
Pikop, Anthony
Robinson, Sue

Cyrus

Bogenreif's Auto Sales
Ellingson, Jennifer
Hjellming, Steven M
Hoffman, Matthew & Melissa
Jensen, Gary
Larson, Dan & Pam
Moser, Howard
Moyle, Todd
Patterson-Pratt, Michael & Julie
Perrine, Aaron A & Stephanie J
RCC Network Inc
Roberts, Douglas
Zumhofe, Gene (Buck)

Donnelly

Castillo, Alma
Eselin, Laurie
Goodwin, Christopher
Huebner, Erin & Matthew
Lantz, Don
Loge, Kirk

Elbow Lake

Access Anywhere
Arth, George & Janice
ATC Microwave
Benson, David R
Berding, Ms Lee
Best, Sharon
Bond, Jason L
Byrne, Eamon T
Camas Minndak
Chambers, Carolyn A
Davis, James
Edwards, Ardis
Ehlers, Nevin c/o Neil Ehlers
Ellert, Roger
Erie, Irene c/o Judy Hunter
Fisher, Jody

Hodgkins, Christopher H
Holm, Reese
Holter, Matthew & V L
Human Performance Systems
Attn: Pat Romo
Johnson, Karen
Larson, Cory c/o Susie Huffman
Lindholm, Tim & Hope
Linehan, Shawn T
Lundberg, Gina
Matz, Patrick A & Stephanie
McCann, Shirley
Mendelson Egg Co c/o Amon Baer
Mueller, Jill
Paulzine, Deanna
Pearson, Jim
Ricks, Amber
Scott, Beverley
Serenio, Ricardo
Severud, Helen c/o
Kenneth Severud
South, Nancy
Strom, Steven
Taylor, Jaycie
Tofer, Kristian
Uram, Katherine
US Postal Service-Elbow Lake
c/o Profitline
Warren, Amanda

Hoffman

Best, Mildred A
Blaskowski, Mark & Joni
Burgess, David & Melonie
Demo, Dennis Howard
Goldsworthy, Beverly
Heemstra, Tammy
Hoffman Meat Market c/o
Alan Shauer
Kaminsky, William R
Larson, Morgan c/o
Virgil Holtz POA
Moe, James
MTS/AAT LLC
Mulville, Michael & Wendy
O'Beirne, Olive E
Peterson, Leilani
Proudfoot, Kathleen
Schumann, Randy
White, Carl c/o Rosie Grammentz
Williams Machine & Design

Kensington

Beliveau, David
Bosma, Justin & Abilgail
Christ, William & Julia
Coleman, Betty J
Dorman, Erica
Droppps, Raymond & Deanna
Eldredge, Charles T
Eldredge, Michael & Cathy
Hall, Melodie
Johnson, Mrs Reuben
Kroupa, Carol
Mickelson, Steven
Nissila, Beverly
Pollock, Judy Lynne
Russell, Daniel
Schmidt, Valerie
Simonson, Renae
Smith-Faber, Sheila
Strommen, Dale
Swenson, Kevin James &
Lisa Marie
Tollefson, Thor & Angela
Zimmerman, Randy & Lois

Norcross

Gunderson, Steve & Deb
McSorely, Stacie
Ricks, Terry

Starbuck

Brown, Michael

Tintah

Abul Express
Bredeson, E Scott
Broesder, Maynard
Courbat, Calvin
Fritz, Roger R
Lilly, Christina J
Roach, Leland Jr
Seiffert, Betty
Spent, Alvina

Wendell

Bergan, L A
Doughty, William A
Kurtz, Robert & Roshelle
Mathews, Marie
Resler, Loretta

Sun Outages May Affect TV Service

In early March, Cable TV customers may experience signal interference due to sun outages, which are caused by a phenomenon known as "solar satellite interference." This occurs when the sun passes directly behind the satellites that transmit cable signals to TV providers. When the sun is aligned with a transmitting satellite, solar flares and radiation emitted by the sun can disrupt the satellite's signal and cause brief signal disruptions.

During a sun outage, you may notice pixelated TV pictures, picture freezes, or audio distortions on a certain channel. You don't have to do anything. Simply wait a few minutes for the event to end. Sounds like the perfect time to get yourself a snack! 00016942-2

If you have trouble with your Runestone TV service that lasts longer than a few minutes, please call us at 320-986-2013.

Celebrating 5-Year Work Anniversaries

Matt Lloyd and Nate Richards have been our Network Technicians for 5 years. Matt and Nate are always willing to help, whether it be in the field or in our office, and they're important members of our team. Thanks for all you do!



Matt Lloyd



Nate Richards

Call 811 to Protect Underground Lines

When you walk around your property, underneath your feet are buried lines that deliver natural gas, electricity, water, communications, and other utilities to your home. If you plan on digging a hole—big or small—be sure to call 811 in advance to have your lines marked. This helps avoid accidental damage and costly repairs.

When you call, your state 811 center will inform utility operators in your area that they need to locate and mark any buried utility lines on your property with color-coded paint or flags. Before they arrive, your job is to mark the location where you want to dig by using chalk or white paint.

You'll need to wait a few days to allow all of the utilities time to do this work, and confirm that all utilities have responded to your request. 00054535-9 You can then proceed carefully with digging, using only hand tools if within 24 inches of marked utility lines.

Thanks for your cooperation!

New Members

Hoffman

Petersen, Philip.....320-986-2657

Kensington

Halvorson, Andrew....320-986-2248

Lowry

Schutz, S.....320-283-3889

Wheaton

City of Wheaton –
Swimming Pool.....320-563-0649

4 Reasons You Might Need to Buy a New Router

Routers are often the forgotten workhorses of the home network. Many people pay no attention to them unless there's a malfunction. That's unfortunate, since getting a new router can be an inexpensive and effective way to improve your WiFi experience.

1. You're experiencing frequent symptoms of an underpowered or overwhelmed router.

These include slow-loading webpages or stuttering video playback as well as trouble getting a strong WiFi signal everywhere in your home.

2. You've had the router for several years.

Nothing lasts forever, including routers. One of the best ways to make sure your home's WiFi network is as fast and reliable as possible is to buy a new router that supports 802.11ac.

3. You're not getting the Internet speeds you expect.

Some older routers have a speed cap limiting the maximum Internet speed possible, which means your outdated router may be preventing you from receiving the full speed of your Internet plan. 00000781-4

4. You want specialty features.

Newer routers typically come with specialty features that were either missing from older models or were difficult to access. An example is "bedtime" enforcement where certain devices can't access the Internet during homework or bedtime hours.



Would you rather not have to deal with router replacement and other upgrades to your WiFi network? Let Runestone Telecom take care of it all for you with our new Managed WiFi Service and routers included with your Internet package! Call 320-986-2013.

Try eBill and AutoPay

Instead of mailing a check, use eBill for more security, lower costs, and less time required. Choose AutoPay and we'll automatically deduct your bill amount on the 20th of the month from the account you designate. Visit www.runestone.net to sign up. Call 320-986-2013 for help.

See TV Guide

You can always find the most up to date show listings on our website at www.runestone.net > Cable Television > Additional Services > TV Guide or scan this QR code to go directly to the TV Guide. You may also opt to purchase a subscription directly from www.tvguidemagazine.com.

