

Connections

NOVEMBER 2026

Holiday Office Closures

November 11th – Veterans Day and Staff Meeting

November 26th – Thanksgiving Day

November 27th – Office Closed

December 24th – Christmas Eve Day

December 25th – Christmas Day

January 1st – New Years Day

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season as you celebrate with your loved ones! Our office will be closed on these dates so we may enjoy time with our families. Our on-call technicians will be available should you experience trouble issues.

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
technicalsupport@runestone.net

Visit Us: www.runestone.net

Find Us:    

Nationally Recognized.
Locally Invested.

Runestone Telecom is committed to keeping rural Minnesota connected.

#SmartRuralCommunity



Runestone
Telecom Association



WIFI

as easy as pie

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE SWEET BENEFITS OF MANAGED WIFI

You have enough on your plate without having to troubleshoot problems with your WiFi network. That's why we offer Managed WiFi. It eliminates WiFi dead zones to create a seamless and reliable Internet connection throughout your home.

Our team will install a next-generation router, connect your devices, and provide ongoing maintenance and remote support. You'll also get a mobile app to conveniently manage parental controls, allow guest access, and enhance security.

Like whipped cream on pumpkin pie, Managed WiFi is the finishing touch to your Internet connection.

CALL 320-986-2013 TO ORDER

Happy Thanksgiving!

78th Annual Jingle Bells Telethon



December 5th, 2026: 5 pm – 10 pm

Alexandria Area High School:

Performing Arts Center

The public is invited to attend and watch the Telethon!

In Person Auditions:

November 8th, 2 pm – 6 pm or online

October 26th – November 8th

Runestone Telecom: Channel 6

Live Stream: jinglebellsalexandria.org
(via YouTube)

For details visit:

jinglebellsalexandria.org.

The Puck Drops Here, Minnesota Wild Fans!

We have reached an agreement with the NHL to bring Wild+ to Channel 29.1 on our TV line-up.

Please rescan your TV channels to receive the new channel update. For the Wild game schedule, visit nhl.com/wild.

Please note: Channel 29.1 will only have programming during Minnesota Wild games.



Thank You to Arvig's Grillin' Crew!

There are certain traditions we look forward to every year, and a visit from Arvig's Grillin' Crew is definitely one of them!

When that amazing BBQ scent starts drifting through the office in the morning, we know we're in for a good day. Once again, the crew treated our staff to an incredible meal and spoiled us with some seriously tasty food.

We appreciate the time, effort, and grilling talent that goes into making this annual visit such a treat for our staff. A big thank-you to Arvig's Grillin' Crew for another delicious meal and for continuing a tradition we always look forward to!



Jamie Frederick, Jamey Zenzen,
Payton Jordan and Jerry Guck.

FRS Scholarship Opportunities

Runestone Telecom is proud to once again participate in the Foundation for Rural Service (FRS) Scholarship Program, in cooperation with NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association.

FRS awards scholarships to students from rural communities who are pursuing their education at a two- or four-year college or vocational school.

Scholarship opportunities are also available to non-traditional students and returning undergraduate students who may have taken a break from their education and are now continuing their studies.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be sponsored by a participating NTCA member: Runestone Telecom Association
- Plan to attend a two- or four-year college or vocational school
- Express an interest in returning to a rural community after graduation

Applicants will complete one online application, which qualifies them for all FRS scholarships for which they are eligible. The application includes a 500–800 word essay, two letters of recommendation, and a transcript. Applicants will also need to identify Runestone Telecom Association as their sponsoring NTCA member.

Application deadline is February 15, 2027. Applications are submitted online through the FRS scholarship application platform. Visit runestone.net for application information and a link to apply. Questions? Give us a call at 320-986-2013.

The Holidays Are Coming. Is Your Internet Ready?

The holidays bring a lot more into your home — more family, more food, more laughter ... and a whole lot more devices connecting to your WiFi!

Your Internet may work perfectly for your everyday routine. Maybe you check email, browse online, and watch an occasional video. But when family comes home for the holidays, your Internet routine can change quickly.

Kids and grandkids arrive with phones, tablets, and gaming systems. Someone is streaming a movie in one room while someone else is video calling family in another. A guest may even bring a laptop to catch up on work. All those devices are sharing your Internet connection at the same time.

If you're still using one of Runestone Telecom's older, lower Internet speeds, that's often when you may start to notice the difference.

Today's homes also have more devices quietly relying on an Internet connection, including security cameras, smart-home equipment, and some health or accessibility devices. While many of these don't require a lot of speed on their own, everything connected to your network shares the available bandwidth.

Our current fiber Internet speeds start at 100 Mbps, giving your household more room for streaming, gaming, video calls, working from home, and all those extra holiday devices.

And don't forget — your router is included with your Internet service! We program it for our network, deliver it, and set it up with your password, so you don't have to do a thing. Prefer to pick it up at our office? Just give us a call. You're welcome to stop in, pick up your router, and chat with our IT techs while you're here.

Not sure what Internet speed you currently have? Give us a call! We'll be happy to look at your service, explain your options, and help you decide what makes sense for your household — before the house fills up for the holidays.

Check your speed before your guests check into your WiFi!



2025 Capital Credit Checks

Capital Credit checks will be mailed out mid-November, refunding approximately \$2,100,000. We'll be refunding the remainder of 2007 and 30% of 2025.

Watch for Peds This Winter! Fiber Peds, That Is!

As the snow starts piling up, please keep an eye out for fiber pedestals when plowing, blowing, or moving snow. Know where your pedestal is located, avoid pushing or piling snow against it, and make sure anyone removing snow on your property knows where it is, too.

Keeping the area around the pedestal visible and accessible helps protect the equipment and allows our technicians to reach it if service is needed.

And, of course, please watch for the other kind of peds, too!

Review Us on



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



New Members

Elbow Lake

Jalonack, LaVon.....218-685-4782

Hoffman

The Rack Athletics.....320-986-2010

Kensington

Andreasen, Judi.....320-965-2567

Hausmann, Dale.....320-965-2004

Lowry

Noyes, Judy.....320-283-2022

Sauk Centre

Bole, Randy & Carol.....320-254-3537

Bromenshenkel,

Dave & Irma.....320-352-3227

Duchene, Bob.....320-352-3179

Hiltner, Bruce.....320-254-3200

Lyn's Repair.....320-352-7808

Martin, Lyndon.....320-352-0048

Olmscheid, Mark.....320-254-3775

VanHavermaet, Gail.....320-429-6465

Wheaton

Krenz, Kent & Marlys....320-422-2399

Thank You, Brady Combs!

While we're sad to see Brady leave us, we're excited for him as he takes a new direction in his career and starts his next adventure!

Brady, we'll miss your smile and your friendly energy, and we wish you nothing but the best in this new chapter.

Thank you for your years of dedication with us — may you have continued good luck in your future!



Fiber Expansion Continues

Our crews have made great progress on our fiber construction projects this year! Mainline construction was completed in areas of Western Stearns County, Crow Lake Township, Brooten, and Belgrade, with crews getting many more homes and businesses connected along the way.

There are several steps between placing fiber in the ground and getting customers connected, and our crews work through each stage as efficiently as possible. We appreciate everyone's patience as we continue expanding our fiber network and bring reliable service to more of our rural communities!



Shop, Play, & Connect Safely Online

From holiday shopping and streaming to online games and new devices, our homes are more connected than ever. That connection brings plenty of convenience and fun, but it also means everyone in the household should know a few basics about staying safe online.

When Shopping Online - Be cautious of deals that seem too good to be true. Scammers often create fake content designed to look like familiar retailers. Instead of clicking an unexpected link, go directly to the retailer's website or app. Before entering payment information, double-check the website address and watch for anything that just doesn't look right.

For Gamers, Especially Kids and Teens - Online safety goes beyond passwords. Many games include chats, in-game purchases, and interaction with people they don't know. Remind kids that an online "friend" is still someone they may not actually know and to never share personal information.

Parents Can Manage Parental Controls - To limit purchases, online communication, and create age-appropriate settings. Consider requiring a password for in-game purchases. Those little clicks can sometimes involve real money!

For Everyone in the Family - Use strong, unique passwords or passphrases, turn on multifactor authentication (MFA) when available, and keep devices and apps updated.

As a Smart Rural Community provider, Runestone Telecom is proud to provide the fiber connection that helps our rural communities learn, work, shop, play, and stay connected.