



## Happy Grandparents Day to Grand Folks

Grandparents Day was first declared a national holiday in 1978 by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, it's been celebrated yearly on the first Sunday after Labor Day. It's a grand time for gatherings to honor the vital role played by grandparents in the lives of their families.

KMTelecom wishes all the best to the grandparents in our community. Enjoy your day!

## Business Office Closed

**Monday, September 5th, 2022**  
Labor Day

**Thursday, November 24th, 2022**  
Thanksgiving Day

## KMTelecom

18 Second Avenue NW  
Kasson, MN 55944-1491  
634-2511

Local call for KMTelecom customers in Kasson, Mantorville, Rock Dell and Dodge Center

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm  
For help with service problems during non-business hours, please call 634-2505.

### 24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 634-2575  
Rock Dell Area 634-2575 (FREE call)  
Dodge Center Area 633-2575

### Visit Us Online

[www.kmtel.com](http://www.kmtel.com)

### Stay Up to Date

Follow KMTelecom on Facebook and Instagram @kmtelcomwhippet



As your growing child gets ready for a new school year, think beyond shopping for a bigger backpack or a bigger pair of shoes. You may also need to upgrade to bigger speeds for your home's internet connection—to better handle the bigger demands of more online homework (not to mention more streaming when the homework's done).

KMTelecom offers A+ internet plans with speeds up to 1 Gig (1,000 Mbps), and they all include responsive customer service and support by our local team.

**GET BIGGER INTERNET SPEEDS**

**CALL 634-2511**

## Solar Fade May Affect Your TV Picture

If your TV picture momentarily turns snowy or blurry between October 8th and 12th—the period of the fall equinox—it's probably from a sun outage or solar fade. This is a natural phenomenon which occur twice a year (in the spring and fall), when the sun appears to pass directly behind the satellite, as seen from the receiving antenna.

During these brief “eclipse” periods, the receiving antenna on earth, the satellite, and the sun are in direct alignment. Reception becomes degraded and eventually impossible for a brief period of time, usually less than 15 minutes. All communications providers using satellites experience this effect.

There is nothing that can be done from a technical standpoint to prevent the sun outage effects. Fortunately, this is a short term problem that ends when the equinox is over.

## HBO & CINEMAX FREE PREVIEW From September 6th to 10th

As a KMTelcom TV subscriber, go to channels 401 – 419 and 1401 & 1412 in HD to enjoy HBO and Cinemax for free during these 5 days. Some of the programming will include:

- New episodes of *Industry* and *Hard Knocks Training Camp: Detroit Lions*
- The highly anticipated new Warner Bros. movie *Elvis*
- Recent hit movies including *The Batman*, *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* and *Last Night in Soho*
- Three episodes of *House of the Dragon*

Love what you see?  
Give us a call at  
634-2511 to sign up.



## Top 8 Materials That Can Block Wi-Fi Signals

There are many obstacles in homes that can interfere with Wi-Fi signals, with the main culprits being building materials.

**The following list is ranked from worst to least interference:**

### 1. Metal

Metal is the ultimate signal-blocking material. Anything made with metal, including metal blinds and doors, can greatly lessen Wi-Fi signals. The more metal there is between your router and a connected device, the worse the signal will be.

### 2. Concrete Walls

Concrete is one of the thickest building materials, and Wi-Fi signals have a hard time passing through concrete walls and floors, especially if they're coupled with metal laths.

### 3. Plaster and Metal Lath

Many buildings use metal laths in plaster to act as a framework for interior walls. When metal laths are used, a thicker layer of plaster is applied. This combination of metal and thicker walls can result in reduced or blocked Wi-Fi signals.

### 4. Ceramic Tile

Wi-Fi signals weaken as they travel through ceramic tile that's been installed on plaster or drywall.

### 5. Windows

While windows are great for letting the light in, they can interfere with Wi-Fi signals by reflecting them. This is especially true of Low-E (low-emissivity) windows, which have a metallic film to help reduce energy consumption.

### 6. Mirrors

Like windows, mirrors are reflective. They're made up of a thin coat of metal on a piece of glass, which can cause electromagnetic interference. The impact of a mirror on Wi-Fi signals increases with the size of the mirror. For example, a mirror wall will interfere with signals more than a small decorative mirror.

### 7. Furniture

If furniture is big enough and your router is nearby, your signals can be significantly weakened. For this reason, don't hide your router behind large furniture such as a couch, entertainment center, or bed.

### 8. Appliances

Refrigerators, washing machines, dishwashers, microwaves, ovens, and other appliances can block Wi-Fi signals because they contain metal and electronics. Keep your router away from them.

**Keep these obstructions in mind when choosing where to place your Wi-Fi router. If you'd like help setting up and maintaining your network, sign up for Managed Wi-Fi. Call 634-2511 for details.**

# Beginner's Guide to Streaming Movies and TV Shows

If you haven't yet jumped on the streaming bandwagon, this article is for you! It covers the basics to help you get started enjoying this entertainment technology.

## What is streaming?

Streaming is content sent in compressed form in a continuous stream over the internet and played as it arrives. The user does not have to wait to download a file to play it.

## What devices are needed?

You can watch streaming movies and TV shows on your smartphone, tablet, laptop, desktop computer, HDTV, or smart TV. For example, you could connect your laptop to your HDTV with an HDMI cable and stream on your laptop and watch on the TV screen. If you have a smart TV, it has built-in apps and networking to get on the internet. You can use them to download most of the streaming apps you'd want.



## What streaming apps are available?

You have many options here, too. Here are a few of the most popular ones:

- **Netflix** – You can watch past seasons of TV shows and recent movies at a low monthly cost. Netflix also offers many original shows.
- **Prime Video** – This streaming service is available at no additional charge to Amazon Prime members. Like Netflix, it offers many TV shows and movies as well as its own original content.
- **Hulu** – Stream full seasons of exclusive series, current-season episodes, hit movies, Hulu originals, and more.
- **Sling TV** – This service is a simple and affordable way to stream live TV and on-demand content.
- **HBO Max** – Enjoy blockbuster movies, epic originals, and addictive series.

## What are the internet requirements?

For a good streaming experience, you'll probably want internet download speeds of 20 Mbps or more.

Visit [www.kmtel.com/streaming-tv](http://www.kmtel.com/streaming-tv) for more information about streaming and to build your streaming bundle.



## We Would Love Your Feedback

Everybody loves a chance to win a prize. Would you like a shot at winning a \$50 gift card to a local business of your choice in Kasson, Mantorville or Dodge Center? Give KMTelecom a Google review between September 1st and 30th, 2022, and we'll put your name in the drawing.

We'd love to hear from you! Simply scan this QR code to get started on your review. Thank you in advance for your kind words.

**\$25** Win a \$25 Credit on Your KMTelecom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by September 30th, 2022 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Congratulations to our June 2022 winner, James Erickson, rural Byron!**





## Everybody Wins When You Choose Our Local Team

KMTelecom knows you have options when it comes to choosing communications service providers. So we thank you for your loyal support. It's truly a win-win decision for these reasons:

- **Our local economy wins.** KMTelecom employs area residents and the dollars you spend with us stay close to home. In addition, we provide the advanced communications services, such as high-speed internet, and Hosted PBX, required for businesses to grow.
- **Our local nonprofit organizations and community events win.** We're actively involved in the communities we serve through membership in local chamber and civic clubs as well as through volunteer work, community festivals and financial donations.
- **Our local students win.** KMTelecom offers a college scholarship program to high school seniors, supports local youth sports, and donates to educational opportunities.

**Thanks again for choosing KMTelecom. Everybody wins when we work together.**

# Scholarship Program Benefits Graduating Seniors

KMTelecom has been a huge supporter of continuing education for many years through contributions to the scholarship funds at the Kasson-Mantorville and Triton Schools. KMTelecom proudly gives back to the communities we serve and is pleased to announce the 2022 scholarship recipients. This year, \$8,000.00 in awards will be split between the following graduates. Congratulations and best wishes as you pursue your college education!



**Ethan Barnum (K-M)** – Ethan plans to attend the University of Minnesota Duluth to study chemical engineering in the fall. His parents are Jason and Melissa Barnum.



**Alayna Gossard (K-M)** – In the fall, Alayna plans to attend St Olaf College, majoring in economics. Alayna is the daughter of Andrea and Chad Gossard.



**MacKenna Johnson (Triton)** – MacKenna plans to attend Minnesota State University, Mankato and is majoring in dental hygiene. Her parents are Sarah and Chad Johnson.



**Dasmine Marquardt (Triton)** – Dasmine is the daughter of Danella and Doug Marquardt. She plans to attend Rochester Community and Technical College and major in early childhood education.



**Kaleb Melcher (K-M)** – Kaleb, son of Cresta and Kerry Melcher, plans to attend the University of Minnesota Duluth and major in engineering.



**Maggie Wilcox (K-M)** – Maggie plans to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to major in business finance on the pre-dental track. Her parents are Kori Wilcox and David Wilcox.