



We Hope the Coming School Days Add Up to Great Experiences

KMTelecom is a big supporter of our community's schools and the important work happening inside their classrooms — from solving problems to inspiring creativity. As another new school year begins, we wish good luck to all the students, parents, and teachers in our service area. **Do you have an internet or Wi-Fi problem to solve? Contact KMTelecom for the solution.**



Business Office Closed

Monday, September 4th, 2023
Labor Day

Thursday, November 23rd, 2023
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
634-2575

Visit Us Online
www.kmtel.com

 Stay Up to Date
Follow KMTelecom on Facebook
 and Instagram @kmtelcomwhippet

KMTelecom
Where technology comes with a human touch

Old School Meets **NEW SCHOOL**

PUT NEW INTERNET ON YOUR SHOPPING LIST

Old school classics like notebooks and colored pencils are still around. But new school technology has moved to the head of the class, with most homework now being done on tablets or laptops rather than paper.

To help your student succeed, consider KMTelecom's fiber-fast internet. We offer incredible speeds and unmatched reliability, so the only thing getting in the way of completing homework efficiently will be texts from friends!

GET A \$100 BILL CREDIT WHEN YOU SIGN UP

We know back-to-school shopping adds up quickly. To help, we'll give you a \$100 bill credit—plus free installation (\$90 value)—when you sign up for our fiber-fast internet by September 30th, 2023.

**CALL
507-634-2511
NOW TO GET
FIBER-FAST INTERNET**



Spotlight on New Employees

We have a couple of new faces at KMTelecom. You may have seen them around, helping customers. Please help us welcome our two new technicians: Connor McKenzie and Dan Lermon.



Connor McKenzie – Connor started with us in May, bringing seven years of experience in the telecommunications industry with him. He grew up in Pine Island and Mazeppa, so he's not far from home. Connor lives with his wife, Macelyn, along with dogs Layla and Frankie, bird Indigo, and cat with no name. When Connor isn't working at KMTelecom, he enjoys fishing, golfing, and hanging out with friends.



Dan Lermon – Dan has 34 years of telephony experience and started at KMTelecom in June. He and his wife of 39 years, Theresa, live in Kasson. Dan and Theresa have three daughters (Dana, Molly, and Courtney) and two granddaughters (Ayda and Ellory). Dan likes to garden and hunt, but most of all, he likes to spend time with his family.



Fiber is the Way of the Future

Fiber is often described as future-proof technology. While that's a bold statement, there's ample evidence to back it up. Here's why fiber networks will be able to meet future demand and stay relevant for many years to come:

Virtually Limitless Potential – The internet speeds offered by fiber are not limited by the line's capacity. Fiber-optic lines use pulses of light to transmit information, so they basically operate at the speed of light. To this day, no one has pushed enough data through fiber to max out its capacity. This means the speed potential with fiber is almost limitless.

Longer Lifespan – Fiber lines have been the backbone of global communication since the beginning of the web. This infrastructure is strong enough to handle the ocean floor's harshness, so it'll easily hold up during inclement weather in your neighborhood. Because fiber is made from glass material, fiber networks are much more resistant to corrosion and deterioration than copper networks, which are made of metal and degrade much faster.

Designed for Data – Fiber networks have significant advantages over copper networks, which were built for phone calls and never designed to transmit data. Copper network connections degrade over long distances, so the farther a customer is from a provider's home base, the more they'll struggle with weaker connections and higher latency. Plus, due to their limited capacity, copper networks are already approaching the top end of their speeds.

More Security – Fiber is much more challenging for criminals. Even though fiber has been around for years, bad actors haven't perfected the art of tampering with fiber lines and must go through a great deal of trouble to even try. Copper lines, however, can have their data intercepted with relative ease. Fiber remains the safest way to transmit data.

KMTelecom has invested in a fiber network to serve you better. Visit www.kmtelecomfiber.com for details on the fiber internet plans we offer.

Dispelling Myths About Home Wi-Fi Networks

Given how much technology changes over time, it's not surprising that what was once true no longer applies, or that people get confused by technical jargon. To clear things up, we're setting the record straight on a few Wi-Fi myths.

Myth: If several people in our home are downloading, then our Wi-Fi will slow to a crawl.

Older Wi-Fi technology couldn't cope with multiple devices downloading, gaming, or streaming at the same time. However, today's routers and access points are designed to help mitigate this.

While the available bandwidth can only be divided up so many times before the effects of everyone "taking a slice" will be felt, a modern router has ways to distribute said bandwidth more equally and fairly. They include multiple antennas and band steering (where the router steers your device to the best, most suitable frequency/band).

Myth: 5GHz is always better than 2.4GHz.

Which band is better depends on your Wi-Fi needs. If you want better range, use 2.4 GHz. If you need higher performance or speed, use the 5GHz band. The 5GHz band, which is the newer of the two, has the potential to cut through network clutter and interference to maximize network performance, which means 5GHz will be better for things like reducing game lag.



Myth: My device won't connect to Wi-Fi, so there must be a problem with my internet.

While there are scenarios where this might be the case, such as a neighborhood-wide internet outage, there are other potential connection issues. For example, if you have a device that won't connect to Wi-Fi, start by focusing your efforts on that device. The solution could be as simple as turning the device off and back on. You can also reset your device's network's settings or have the device "forget" your Wi-Fi and reconnect a few seconds later.

If you'd like help setting up and maintaining your home Wi-Fi network, call 634-2511 and ask about our Managed Wi-Fi service.



988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Offers Hope

Too many people experience suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress without the support and care they need. However, help is readily available.

By calling or texting 988, a person can connect directly with a mental health professional via the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. This Crisis Lifeline is a national network of more than 200 crisis centers, staffed 24/7 to provide confidential assistance. These centers are supported by local and state sources as well as the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 to connect directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline which serves our nation's Veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve members, and those who support them. For texts, Veterans should continue to text the Veterans Crisis Lifeline short code: 838255.

\$25 Win a \$25 Credit on Your KMTelcom Bill

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by September 30th, 2023 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Congratulations to our June 2023 winner, Dennis Schultz, Dodge Center.

You Can't Buy Happiness, But You Can Buy Local

You may have seen this message shared on social media platforms. It certainly offers food for thought:

"When you're supporting small businesses, you're not helping a CEO buy a third vacation home. You're helping a little girl get dance lessons, a little boy get his team jersey, a mom put food on the table, a dad pay a mortgage, or a student pay for college."

Small businesses are the heart of America, and for them to keep pumping, they need our support. This is achieved when community residents place a high value on keeping small businesses healthy and are committed to buying goods and services locally whenever possible.

Supporting small businesses goes far beyond helping their owners, since they in turn donate to local charities, sports teams, and other causes. Simply put, communities need strong independent businesses to thrive.

KMTelecom believes in the power of supporting one another on a local level, which is why we strive to purchase locally sourced products, partner with local vendors, and give back to our community through donations and volunteering.



2023 Scholarship Recipients

KMTelecom has long been a supporter of continuing education by contributing to the scholarship funds at the Kasson-Mantorville and Triton Schools. This year, \$11,600 in scholarships will be split between these graduates. Congratulations and best wishes!



Ella Babcock (K-M) – Ella is the daughter of Keri and Aaron Babcock. She plans to major in exercise science at Grand Canyon University, Arizona.



Laney Bungum (K-M) – Laney is the daughter of Marlo and Aaron Bungum. She plans to major in exercise science/psychology at the University of Kansas.



Eric Fagerlind (K-M) – Eric is the son of Jennifer and Timothy Fagerlind. He plans to major in nursing at Minneapolis Community & Technical College.



Katie Harfmann (K-M) – Katie is the daughter of Reva and Kent Harfmann. She plans to major in business at the University of Notre Dame.



Talia Kelley (Triton) – Talia is the daughter of Andrea and Tim Kelley. She plans to major in criminal justice at Rochester Community & Technical College.



Isaac Madison (Triton) – Isaac is the son of Ruth and Chris Madison. He plans to major in business administration at Rochester Community & Technical College.



Alita Rinehart (K-M) – Alita is the daughter of Amanda and Brian Rinehart. She plans to major in social work and child development at Rochester Community & Technical College.



Macy Wilhelm (K-M) – Macy is the daughter of Emie Sue and Jonathan Wilhelm. She plans to major in kinesiology and pre-physical therapy at the University of Northern Iowa.