

The Communicator

News from your local coop to keep you connected.

June 2026

FIBER INTERNET vs 5G WIRELESS

— What's the Difference? —



When it comes to internet service, you may have heard about both fiber and 5G wireless options. While both can deliver fast speeds, how they perform are very different.

Fiber internet uses a direct, wired connection to your home. This means your speeds are consistent, reliable, and not affected by how many people nearby are online. Whether you're streaming, working from home, or connecting multiple devices, fiber is built to keep everything running smoothly.

5G wireless internet, on the other hand, delivers service through a signal from a nearby tower. Because it's wireless and shared, speeds can vary depending on signal strength, weather, and network congestion—especially during busy times of day.

Another key difference is consistency. Fiber provides the same strong performance day and night, while 5G can fluctuate. For households that rely on a dependable connection for everyday tasks, that reliability can make a big difference.

While 5G may seem like a convenient and cheap option, fiber is designed for long-term performance and the growing demands of today's connected homes.

Spring Grove Communications fiber gives you a faster, more consistent experience you can count on and is backed by local customer support from your neighbors!

Happy Workiversary!



Mat - 4 years
Combination
Technician



Addie - 3 years
Accounting
Assistant



Mindful Moment

June is Men's Mental Health Awareness Month, a reminder that mental health is just as important as physical health. Many men experience challenges like stress, anxiety, and depression, yet often hesitate to seek support due to stigma or the pressure to "tough it out." This month encourages open conversations, checking in on loved ones, and reminding others that asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness. Scan the QR code to learn more about men's mental health resources and ways to support yourself or someone you care about.



Understanding your Capital Credits

What are capital credits?

Capital credits are your share of the cooperative's margins (profits). Instead of going to outside investors, those margins are allocated back to members based on how much you use our services.

How the process works:

1. **Allocation:** Margins are calculated and assigned to members based on usage. You earn allocations by subscribing to our phone, internet, &/or TV services.
2. **Retention:** Funds are held to invest in network upgrades, maintenance, and stability.
3. **Retirement:** Funds are returned to members when financial conditions allow.

Why aren't capital credits issued every year?

The decision depends on cash flow, investments, debt, economic conditions, and funding changes. In recent years, rising costs and reduced outside funding have impacted timing.

Important to know:

1. Allocations are still happening even if payments are not issued.
2. Allocation does not guarantee immediate payment.
3. Retained funds help support reliable service and ensure the long-term success of the coop.

Our commitment to you:

We remain focused on reliable service, future investment, supporting our community, and staying transparent with our members. If you ever have questions, you can always reach out to one of our board members or our staff. Thank you for being a member of your local coop!



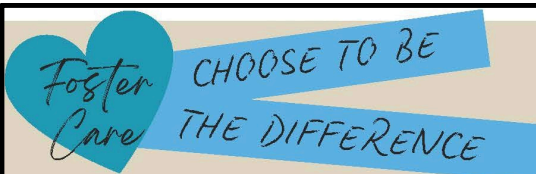
Click with Confidence Staying Safe with AI

June 23 10:00-11:00am
SGC Room 100

Join us for our next Click with Confidence class, a free community event focused on staying safe and secure online with a focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Grab a cup of coffee, enjoy a relaxed conversation, and learn how to better protect yourself and your family with simple, practical online safety tips.

No tech experience needed and anyone is welcome to attend! The event will be held at our office in Room 100.



Houston County
is looking for individuals interested in becoming a licensed child foster parent.

Who Can Be a Foster Parent?

Those who are at least 21 years of age, provide good references, pass a background check, and are willing and able to provide a loving, caring home.

Homes Needed & Types of Stays

Homes for sibling groups, teens, & all ages! Stays can be short-term, long-term, or as respite. Houston County will work with you to ensure your preferences are met.

Contact Houston County Human Services to Learn More!

LSolum@HoCoMN.gov

507-725-5811 ext. 1341

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/human-services/>



Scan the QR code or click this [link](#) to access the Houston County CFC Application Packet