

ALPINE COMMUNIQUÉ

Real Access. Real Value. Real People.



Q4 2024 Newsletter



Wadena Fun Day

We are thrilled to announce the completion of our state-of-the-art high-speed fiber internet network in Wadena, Iowa. This achievement represents a major step forward in local internet access, offering residents and businesses the kind of top-tier fiber speeds typically seen in large metropolitan areas. (563-964-2529)

With the launch of this new fiber network, Wadena residents will enjoy enhanced internet experiences, including faster download speeds, seamless streaming, and a more reliable online connection. This project reflects our dedication to providing high-quality broadband services to underserved rural communities.

“Today is a milestone for Wadena,” said Chris Hopp, CEO of Alpine Communications. “We are proud to deliver world-class fiber internet to this community. The new infrastructure not only improves quality of life for residents but also gives local businesses the tools they need to grow and innovate.”



The benefits of fiber internet are numerous—greater bandwidth, more reliable connections, and the ability to meet the increasing demands of remote work, online learning, and digital entertainment. With the growing reliance on internet connectivity, this upgrade ensures that Wadena is ready for the digital future.

Alpine Communications donates to Family’s Helping Hand Organization

Alpine Communications donated to the Family’s Helping Hand organization in Guttenberg through a local campaign aimed at raising awareness for both the food pantry and the services offered by Alpine through its fiber network. Lanette Schutte of Alpine Communications presents Tracy Kregel with a check for Guttenberg Municipal Hospital & Clinics.



If your phone number appears in parentheses (XXX-XXXX) in this edition of the Alpine Communiqué, please give us a call at 563-245-4000 by December 31, 2024, and we’ll apply a \$5 credit to your account!



Welcome Christine!

Contributing to Those Who Keep Us Connected: Meet Christine Meier

Alpine Communications is excited to welcome Christine Meier, who joined the team as Executive Assistant on August 12th. From day one, it's been a whirlwind of acronyms for Christine, but she's embraced the challenge with enthusiasm. Every industry has its own language, and Alpine is no different. Christine understands that just as each industry has its unique jargon, Alpine's customers have equally unique communication and technical needs. (563-873-2747)

"The great thing about Alpine is that there's a plan to fit everyone," Christine explains. She's quickly learned that Alpine's dedication to keeping people connected is matched by the support she's received from her new colleagues, who are always willing to help her navigate the new industry.

Christine's journey to Alpine is grounded in her commitment to community and family. She's married with three adult children, four grandchildren, two dogs, two grand-dogs, and even a grand-bearded dragon. Along with her children, Christine co-owns a small business creating inspirational shirts and sweatshirts—a creative outlet that keeps her busy when she's not at work. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, baking, and playing games with her grandchildren. A true community member, Christine is also a part of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Garnavillo.

Academically, Christine holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Upper Iowa University and an Associates degree in Accounting. Her diverse background and strong ties to the community make her a perfect fit for Alpine, where she's excited to make a positive impact.

"I'm very happy to be contributing to my own community and doing my part to support the people who keep all of us connected!" Christine says. As she continues to settle into her role, Christine is excited about the opportunity to support the mission of Alpine and help ensure everyone stays connected.

Alpine is fortunate to have Christine on board, and we look forward to seeing her contributions to both the company and the community.



Alpine Broadband Companion Mobile Plan

Do you have Alpine home Internet service?

If so we have a mobile plan to complete your online experience. No home phone required.

Home Internet Plan

100/100

300/300

500/500

Mobile Companion Plan

\$40.00 per line

\$35.00 per line

\$35.00 per line

Alpine's Broadband Companion Plan gives Unlimited talk, text, and data* including Unlimited Nationwide calling, Caller ID, Call Waiting, 3-way calling, and voicemail.

*20G of prioritized data along with 5G mobile hotspot access is available before speed reduction.

Meet Harrison: Alpine's New Broadband Technician

Alpine Communications is excited to welcome Harrison, who joined the team as a Broadband Technician on July 8th, 2024. With a background in technology and a passion for problem-solving, Harrison is ready to bring his expertise to Alpine and help keep our customers connected.

Harrison's experience includes assisting with a technology upgrade at the Edgewood Fire Department, giving him hands-on experience in managing complex systems. He also pursued education at EDCO and studied computer engineering and computer science in college. His areas of expertise revolve around computers and devices—skills that are invaluable in his role at Alpine.

"I'm excited to learn the best ways to serve our customers," Harrison says. He's already enjoying the customer interactions that come with the job, as well as the occasional treat in the break room. But more than anything, Harrison values the opportunity to work with a great team of co-workers and solve real-world problems for Alpine's customers.

Outside of work, Harrison enjoys reading, watching YouTube, skateboarding, and tinkering with computers, including building and gaming. His deep interest in technology and constant desire to learn make him a perfect fit for the ever-evolving world of broadband technology. (563-252-2105)

When asked about the biggest challenges customers face, Harrison points to helping them understand and use their devices effectively. He's particularly passionate about solving customers' tech problems, no matter how tricky. "If something's not working, I want to fix it or figure out why it's not working," he says.

Alpine is thrilled to have Harrison on board, and we can't wait to see all the ways he'll contribute to helping our customers stay connected!



Welcome Harrison!

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS UPDATE

We are excited to share the latest updates on our fiber network expansion:

Wadena: We are excited to begin installing customers to our brand-new fiber optic network. Residents can call 563-245-4000 to schedule their cutover today.

Volga: Construction in town has been completed and we continue with the provisioning of electronics. We hope to be ready November 1st for our first installs.

Rural Areas: Crews are actively working in the Volga rural area. Plowing is scheduled to begin along Highway 13 and Highway 3 during the week of **October 7th**.

Strawberry Point: The hut has been set and is ready for the next step which is installing electronics. Construction crews continue to install the main line throughout the rural area.

We appreciate your patience as we work to bring reliable, high-speed fiber internet to your community.



Clayton County Fair Grant presentation

Lara Duff of Alpine Communications presents Deb Schulte of the Clayton County Agricultural Society with an Aureon Charity Grant for the purchase of a new speaker system. The system will be used in the livestock and show arenas at the National Fairgrounds, enhancing the experience for attendees and serving as a vital emergency alert tool during the annual event. It will also increase the venue's versatility by providing high-quality audio for various functions, including trainings, weddings, and other gatherings. **Congratulations!**



AUREON[™]

The Aureon Charity Grant Program awards grants on a quarterly basis. To learn more, please contact Giving@Aureon.com.



Guttenberg Economic & Industrial Development Committee

Guttenberg Economic & Industrial Development Committee (GEIDC) Chairman Austin Coon accepts an Aureon Charity Grant from Lanette Schutte of Alpine Communications. The funds were used to purchase an exterior double door, improving accessibility for donations and food deliveries at the new building that will house the food pantry. Congratulations, and thank you for supporting individuals and families in need through the food pantry and other services.

How Your Internet Bandwidth is Being Consumed Without You Even Knowing:

Today vs. 5 Years Ago

In the rapidly evolving digital landscape, how internet bandwidth is consumed has changed dramatically over the past five years. With the proliferation of connected devices, increased reliance on cloud services, and the rise of streaming media, many users are unaware of the significant shifts in bandwidth usage patterns. This article explores the key factors contributing to this change and provides insights into how bandwidth consumption has evolved.

THE PROLIFERATION OF CONNECTED DEVICES

Then (5 Years Ago):

- Five years ago, the average household had fewer connected devices. Smartphones, laptops, and perhaps a smart TV or gaming console were the primary devices consuming bandwidth. (563-245-1625)
- Internet of Things (IoT) devices were in their infancy, with only a few households adopting smart thermostats, security cameras, or smart speakers.

Now (Today):

- Since 2019, there has been an estimated 70% increase in connected devices – from 17.22 billion to 29.32 billion.
- The average household now has a multitude of connected devices. In addition to smartphones, laptops, and smart TVs, many homes feature an array of IoT devices such as smart thermostats, security systems, smart speakers, connected appliances, and even smart light bulbs.
- Each device continuously sends and receives data, significantly increasing overall bandwidth consumption without users actively engaging with them.

THE RISE OF STREAMING MEDIA

Then (5 Years Ago):

- Streaming media was popular but not as ubiquitous. Services like Netflix, YouTube, and Spotify were widely used, but 4K streaming was not as common due to bandwidth limitations and fewer 4K-capable devices.
- Many still relied on cable TV or physical media like DVDs and Blu-rays for high-quality video content.

Now (Today):

- Streaming services have exploded in popularity, growing 182% since 2019. Platforms like Netflix, Disney+, Hulu, Amazon Prime Video, and a plethora of niche services offer vast libraries of content, often in 4K and even 8K resolution.
- Music streaming has also surged, with services like Spotify, Apple Music, and Amazon Music becoming primary sources of audio entertainment.
- The increased quality of streaming content requires significantly more bandwidth, often leading to bandwidth consumption that far exceeds that of five years ago.



INCREASED RELIANCE ON CLOUD SERVICES

Then (5 Years Ago):

- Cloud services were becoming popular, but many businesses and individuals still relied on local storage and on-premises software for their daily operations.
- Basic cloud storage services like Dropbox and Google Drive were used primarily for file sharing and backup.
- The global cloud computing market grew from \$24.63 billion in 2010 to \$156.4 billion in 2020. That's a 635% jump.

Now (Today):

- Cloud computing and storage have become integral to both personal and professional life. Services like Google Workspace, Microsoft 365, and various SaaS (Software as a Service) platforms are essential tools for businesses.
- The shift to remote work and online collaboration tools during the COVID-19 pandemic further accelerated the adoption of cloud services.
- Continuous data synchronization, automatic backups, and cloud-based applications contribute to substantial background bandwidth consumption.

As you can see, internet consumption has changed dramatically. These changes have led to a significant increase in background bandwidth consumption, often without users being fully aware of it. As technology continues to advance, understanding and managing bandwidth usage will become increasingly important for both individuals and businesses.

Fiber internet connectivity plays a significant role in creating a seamless user experience by delivering symmetrical speeds (equal download and upload speeds), which means no buffering, fast speeds, and extremely reliable service. Connect with Alpine Communications today to find the best package for your needs.



CONNECT WITH US:

923 Humphrey St.
PO Box 1008
Elkader, Iowa 52043

Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday - Friday
563-245-4000
or 1-800-635-1059
www.alpinecom.net

Technical Support:

1-888-264-2908

SecureIT Tech Support:

1-877-373-3320



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and help us grow:



100% fiber-optic Fusion Network

from Alpine Communications
means insanely fast Internet.



Only Alpine Communications built a fiber-optic network in this area. Which means we're the only provider for really, really, really fast Internet — **the “click and you're instantly there” kind.**

100/100	300/300	500/500
\$85.00	\$100.00	\$115.00
1500 Mbps Download 100 Mbps Upload Great for a variety of home office small business applications. Ideal for up to 1-2 employees and/or business use case.	300 Mbps Download 300 Mbps Upload Great for a variety of small to medium-sized business applications. Ideal for 3-5 employees and/or business use case.	500 Mbps Download 500 Mbps Upload Great for a variety of medium-sized business applications with multiple devices connecting the network. Ideal for 5+ employees and/or business use case.

Free Extras with every Fusion Internet Package

Alpine Communications Fusion Internet is an all-around excellent value. Not only do you get high speeds at low monthly rates, but we also give you these **FREE extras:**

- ➔ UNLIMITED data with no caps or overages
- ➔ FREE 5 email accounts with spam and email virus filtering
- ➔ FREE 24x7 Technical Support - Our free technical support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-(855) 558-9863.
- ➔ FREE access to more than 3,500 live sports events on ESPN3.com



Get Connected Today! 563-245-4000