



A fast-read update on Lake County's county-owned, high-speed fiber optic network

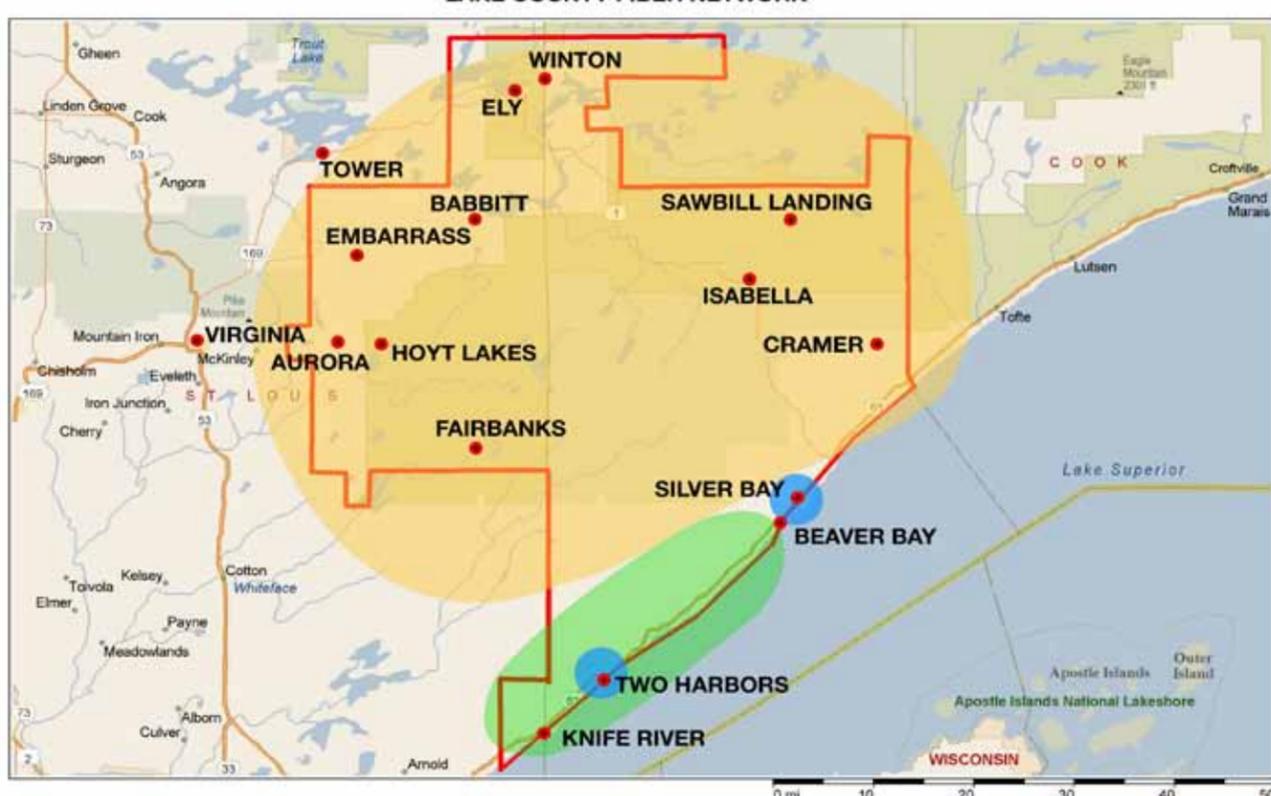
Take the Survey!

Lake Connections is currently surveying Lake County and Eastern St. Louis County residents to learn more about how to better service our customers!

Please take our survey and provide us your feedback:

[Lake Connections Service Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/25B7TH8), <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/25B7TH8>

LAKE COUNTY FIBER NETWORK



■ PHASE 1

■ PHASE 2

■ PHASE 3

Summer has finally arrived, and with it, comes construction progress! See the map above to see which phase of construction applies to your home or business.

Construction Update

The Lake Connections construction crews continue to make headway and work toward completion of the project phases. With a project that spans **over 2,000 miles**, there are many varied tasks to accomplish and each one is a critical piece of the puzzle. Often times a delay in an early stage can be mitigated and worked around, but more often, the project must wait for the delay to be resolved before moving forward. Examples of issues that cause delay:

- Pole Attachment and Ownership Discrepancies
- Permitting
- Railroad and Road crossings
- Challenges with boring into Granite and Bedrock
- Weather – especially snow and rain
- Preparation of “make-ready” on power poles for fiber and strand to attach
- Before service can begin, the central office infrastructure and the network equipment must all be in place
- Network and fiber testing

Main line and drop line crews are working simultaneously to get everyone connected. ****Important note:** If you are interested in having fiber to your home or business and you see crews drive by or working in your area without stopping, do not worry, that is the main line crew. The drop crew will be along eventually to get you connected if you have requested them to do so.

ALL PHASES ARE SCHEDULED IN THE MOST EFFICIENT MANNER.

Phase One:

Two Harbors • Silver Bay • Silver Bay Township

In Silver Bay, only 39 aerial drops remain and will be completed this week. In addition over 1,000 feet of fiber was buried to the Silver Bay city hall where Lake Connections will have its equipment room to provide services for Silver Bay.

Phase Two:

Duluth Township • Knife River • Silver Creek Township • Beaver Bay Township

Construction crews have completed 20 out of the 110 miles of buried fiber feed that will be in place between Silver Bay and Duluth Township. The expected completion is late July or early August. Aerial construction crews have completed 10 out of the 228 miles thus far.

Phase Three:

Ely • Aurora • Babbitt • Hoyt Lakes • Basset Township • Colvin Township • Crystal Bay Township • Embarrass Township • Fall Lake Township • Morse Township • Stony River Township • Waasa Township • White Township • And several unorganized townships

Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is currently reviewing the \$20.3 Million dollar construction contract. We hope to start this 750 miles of construction late summer.



Cooling equipment being installed at the administration service center.

Administration/Service Center

The Lake Connections Administration and Customer Service Center continues to progress. Finishing activities are taking place inside the facility. Once complete, network and infrastructure placement and testing will begin. The project team anticipates a late August opening.

Employment Opportunities

Continue to check our website, www.lakeconnections.com/careers, for employment opportunities.