

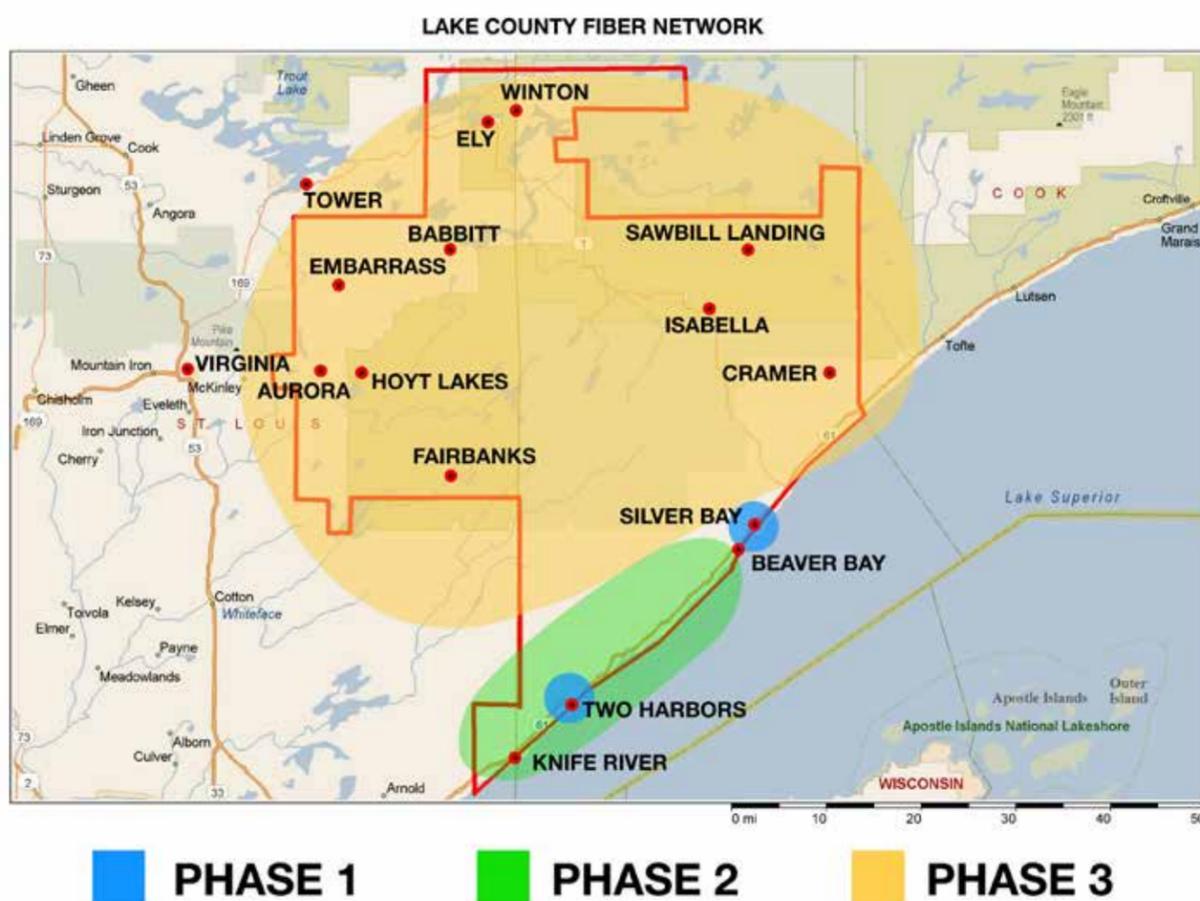


A fast-read update on Lake County's county-owned, high-speed fiber optic network

As fall begins to knock on our doors, Lake Connections' crews continue to develop the network that will connect you. Main line and drop line crews are still working hard to get everyone connected and ready for service.

During the August 28th Grand Opening celebration, service prices were readily available, and you can find a link to the current [price sheet](#) on the Lake Connections website. Also on the website, you can find the registration form to win a year of *FREE Internet service!*

The drawing will be held October 1st – simply print the form and drop it off at the Lake Connections headquarters, or send in the mail (409 17th Avenue, Two Harbors MN 55616).



## Construction Update

The month of August and early September saw considerable progress, with close to 73,000 feet of fiber hung. Pending any unforeseen circumstances, service will begin to be available in parts of Phase I yet this fall and early winter. As a reminder, construction timelines are often at the mercy of several unforeseen factors. Pole Attachment and Ownership Discrepancy obstacles delaying certain segments of construction may include:

- *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 attachment*
- *Central office infrastructure and network equipment must all be in place before service begins*
- *Network and fiber testing*

**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. Pre sales will start this fall and 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**

The crews in Silver Bay have completed burying the fiber that will connect the network from the Service Center building to the point of presence location in Silver Bay. Pole ownership disputes continue to delay advancement in Two Harbors.

### Phase Two:

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

Approximately 73,000 feet of fiber was hung this past month. In the 2A area the crews are working on splicing. The crews have completed burying 100 miles of duct and the crews are preparing to insert the fiber.

### 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 construction contract. Construction on the 750 miles of this phase should begin before the end of the year.

## Administration/Service Center

The Lake Connections Administration and Customer Service Center is open for business. The Center was completed in time for the August 28th Grand Opening celebration, which brought nearly 300 people to the Lake Connections headquarters. Be sure to check out the Grand Opening Gaining Speed, if you missed it! The satellite dishes and rack receivers (photos) have been installed at the Center which will provide the Digital TV service to you, which is a major catalyst to get services up and running to customers.



Satellite Dishes behind the Lake Connections Service Center



Rack receivers ready for data

## Employment Opportunities

Continue to check our website, [www.lakeconnections.com/careers](http://www.lakeconnections.com/careers), for employment opportunities.

For project and construction updates see “Gaining Speed” on [www.lakeconnections.com](http://www.lakeconnections.com)

