



June 2025 • Volume 31, Issue 2
A quarterly newsletter from your friends at KMTelecom



Business Office Closed

Friday, July 4th, 2025
Independence Day

Monday, September 1st, 2025
Labor Day

KMTelecom

18 Second Avenue NW
Kasson, MN 55944-1491
507-634-2511

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 507-634-2505.

24/7 Internet Help Desk

Kasson, Mantorville Area 507-634-2575
Rock Dell Area 507-634-2575 (FREE call)
Dodge Center Area 507-633-2575

Visit Us Online

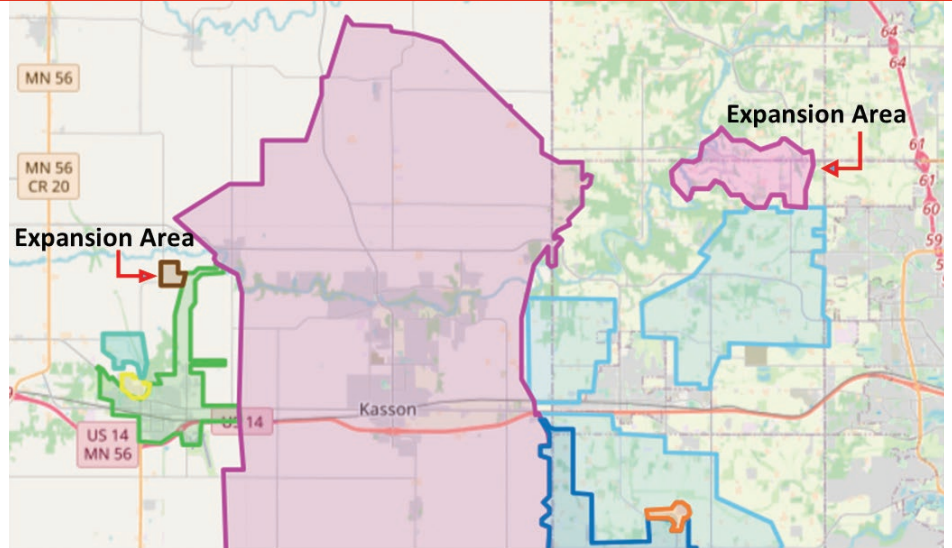
www.kmtel.com



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KMTelecom
Where technology comes with a human touch



Fiber Construction Continues Into Summer 2025

KMTelecom is excited to continue expanding our fiber network into two new areas this summer! Construction will begin in a small region southwest of Wasioja, as well as the Genoa/Douglas area. These expansions will give approximately 100 homes access to our new fiber network and the superior internet it brings.

We're thrilled to get started, and these areas can expect communication from KMTelecom as the project progresses. Want to get ahead of the game? Pre-register now at www.kmtelecomfiber.com to ensure your address is added to our construction list. We'd love to have you on board!

If you're in the KMTelecom service area and haven't been connected yet, give us a call at 507-634-2511 or visit www.kmtelecomfiber.com to submit your address. We'd love to bring fiber to your home. You can enjoy internet speeds up to 1 Gig, plus low-rate local and long-distance phone service and Streaming TV!

Summer Concert Series – Music in Mantorville Tuesdays from June 3rd – August 26th, 2025

KMTelecom is sponsoring the first Live Music event on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025 at Riverside Park in Mantorville. This event starts at 4:30pm and will offer yoga, a farmers market, local food vendors and live music starting at 5:30pm. We will see you there!

Common Misconceptions About Paperless Billing

Are you still hesitant to switch from paper bills to paperless billing? We'd like to set the record straight on these common misconceptions to help ease your concerns.

Misconception 1: Paperless billing isn't secure. The reality is that paperless billing has many safeguards in place, making it more secure than having statements and payments in a mailbox where they could fall into the wrong hands.

Misconception 2: I need paper bills to remind me to pay. On the contrary, it's more convenient to receive text and/or email reminders of when your bill is due. That way, you'll be notified even if you're away from home and not receiving mail.

Misconception 3: I won't have billing statements for my records. Paperless billing allows you to access your current and past bills online, so you'll always have the records you need at your fingertips.

Visit www.kmtel.com to sign up for paperless billing and receive a one-time \$10 credit! If you'd like help with the process, call 507-634-2511.



Smart Ways to Keep Kids Learning Over the Summer

Learning doesn't need to stop just because the school year did. If you have young children or grandchildren in your life, study these suggestions from Reading Rockets—a national multimedia literacy initiative—to keep the learning process moving forward over summer break.

Check out local summer opportunities. From camps to concerts, see what events are taking place nearby that would help children pick up new knowledge and explore new experiences.

Encourage writing. This could include having children write up grocery lists, send letters or postcards to family members, start a blog, or keep a journal. More ideas can be found at www.startwithabook.org/summer-writing.

Read, read, read. This is the single most valuable learning activity for kids and can be done at home, in the car, or while on vacation. Make library or bookstore visits part of the summer routine, and guide kids to age-appropriate websites for additional reading opportunities.

Watch a garden grow. Kids can learn a lot by researching, planning, planting, and caring for a vegetable or flower garden. Have them keep a garden journal to record their observations.

Take advantage of interactive online learning. There are many great educational websites for kids of all ages. They include:

- **PBS KIDS Lab** - Educational games, activities, and mobile apps for kids PreK to grade 3
- **National Geographic Kids** - Great nature videos, activities, games, stories, and more
- **Discovery Kids** - Videos, games, and activities to explore dinosaurs, sharks, space, pets, history, and more
- **Smithsonian Kids Collecting** - How to start your own collection and see what other kids collect
- **The Last American Dinosaurs** - From the National Museum of Natural History
- **NASA Kids' Club** - A place to play games and learn about NASA through interactive explorations
- **My Wonderful World** - A multimedia tour of our seven continents

Is your home's internet speed fast enough to successfully handle all the online learning (and online entertainment) going on with multiple users and devices? If you're experiencing annoying slowdowns, call us at 507-634-2511 and ask about getting a speed upgrade.

Save Money by Using Free Streaming Platforms

Given the rising prices of subscriptions to streaming platforms such as Netflix and YouTube TV, you may be looking for ways to cut costs. One option is to drop one or more of your paid subscriptions and use free streaming platforms to help fill in the gap.

While these free options don't offer the same variety and high level of content — and you'll have to sit through ads — they're worth exploring if you're serious about saving money on streaming.

Here's a consensus of what industry reviewers have to say about some of the most popular free streaming platforms:

Best Overall – Tubi (tubitv.com) Tubi offers considerably more free movies than TV shows, but it continues to grow its extensive library. It also offers nationwide and local news livestreams in addition to live sports, weather, and entertainment channels.

Best for Educational and Family Content – Kanopy (www.kanopy.com) Kanopy lets you stream thousands of films for free, thanks to the generous support of your public library or university.

Best for Channel Flippers – Pluto TV (pluto.tv/us/on-demand) In addition to on-demand movie streaming for free, Pluto TV also has more than 250 live and linear channels on the platform.

Best for Roku Users – The Roku Channel (therokuchannel.roku.com) This platform is designed for people who own the company's streaming devices and TVs. You'll find thousands of free TV shows and hit movies, 400+ live TV channels, and more.

Best for Library Card Holders – Hoopla (hoopladigital.com) This puts your public library at your fingertips. Borrow and enjoy audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines, or music everywhere you have a screen.

Best Revamped Service – Sling Freestream (sling.com/freestream) Sling Freestream offers more than 40,000 titles of free on-demand TV and movies and 500+ live TV channels. It's an expanded and rebranded version of Sling TV's former offering, called Sling Free.

If the speed of your internet service hasn't kept up with your household's streaming demands, consider a speed upgrade. You'll find details at www.kmtel.com.



Know what's below. Call 811 before you dig.

All sorts of utility lines, pipes, and cables could be buried on your property and easily damaged by even shallow digging. This can result in service interruptions to your entire neighborhood.

Before you dig, call 811 to have utility lines marked. The affected local utilities will send a locator to your property, free of charge. Then you'll know what's below and be able to dig safely.

As one of your local service providers, KMTelcom thanks you in advance for your cooperation!



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

Fill out this form, clip it, and return it with your next bill by June 30th, 2025 for a chance to win a **\$25 credit** to your account. One winner per newsletter will be selected.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

To qualify for the drawing, please answer the question below. (The answer can be found in this issue.)

Approximately how many homes will be added to our fiber network this summer?

Congratulations to our March 2025 winner, Judy Rud, Kasson, MN.

Community is Our Middle Name

Living and working in the same community as your internet service provider (ISP) may be even more beneficial than you realize. KMTelecom offers many advantages over national competitors including these:

- **We know the community.** As your local ISP, we're deeply rooted here and have the connections, relationships, and local knowledge other companies simply do not have. We understand how to get things done efficiently.
- **We lend a hand to help.** As a company and as individual employees, you'll see KMTelecom actively involved in the community through donations and volunteering.
- **We provide personal customer service.** You're not just a customer to us. You're also a neighbor and someone our employees will run into at the grocery store or at community events. We genuinely care about you, your satisfaction, and your success.

KMTelecom is proud to be your local ISP and honored to serve you. To learn more about our community involvement, follow us on Facebook or visit www.kmtel.com.



Download Movies and Series Before You Travel

There may be times during a vacation when an internet connection isn't available—such as on an airplane, in your car, or on a bus. If you'd still like to be able to stream movies and series, plan ahead and download a bunch of titles to your phone or tablet to take with you. It can make long hours of travel go by more quickly.

Before we proceed, let's review the basics of downloading. When you download something, you're transferring data from a remote server to your own device. Once the download is complete, the file is saved on your device, and you can access it whenever you want.

While not every streaming service offers a download feature on its app, many of them do—including Netflix, Hulu, Prime Video, Max, and Disney+. What's more, the process is easy. For example, Netflix has you go to My Netflix > Downloads > See What You Can Download. From here, you'll see everything that's available to download. Select the movie or TV show you'd like to have, then simply tap the download icon next to it. (Note that for a series, you may need to do this for each individual episode.)

Once you download your selections, you'll be prepared to beat boredom whenever it strikes and be entertained even without an internet connection. It's a great way to catch up on your favorite series or stream a movie you didn't get a chance to see in the theater. Plus, you won't have to pay for internet service on the plane.

If the content you want to enjoy during your vacation isn't available to download from your streaming service, you may be able to buy or rent it on iTunes. Another possible option is to buy a subscription to movie services like HBO Go or Showtime Anytime. You can download movies there, and watch them later, or just stream them from your device.

To learn more about streaming, visit our Streaming TV guide at www.kmtel.com/streaming-tv/.