

Connections

AUGUST 2025

Buying Local is a Win-Win Decision

Runestone Telecom thanks you for supporting us as the local provider and encourages you to buy local whenever possible. It's good for you, and it's good for our community.

Office Closure

We'll be closed on Monday, September 1st for Labor Day. Trouble calls will be handled by our on-call technicians.

Contact Us

100 Runestone Drive / PO Box 336
Hoffman, MN 56339
Phone: 320-986-2013

Office Hours: M-F 8 am to 4:30 pm

Email: rtaoffice@runestone.com

24/7 HelpDesk for Internet Outages and Technical Support:
320-986-6655

helpdesk@runestone.net

Visit Us: www.runestone.net

Find Us: [!\[\]\(b4eeff342f60cc7bcd67d869b4fedca2_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(7cbfaf281ed50ce10ba1259f16ecca5e_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(45e19980741702820171ea460fc10e37_img.jpg\)](#)

Review Us on Google

Please let others know about your experience as a Runestone Telecom customer. Scan this code and leave a review on Google. Thanks!



Runestone
Telecom Association



Cool Attitudes and Cool Technology

It's cool to love learning, to embrace challenges, and to build friendships. As parents, these are the cool attitudes we want to foster in our children as the school year begins.

Cool technology, like our unbeatably fast and reliable fiber Internet, can also help students keep their cool and work efficiently through online assignments—without having to deal with annoying buffering or downed connections. Ready to upgrade? We offer fiber Internet plans with speeds up to 1 Gig.

**CALL 320-986-2013 FOR
A *Cool* INTERNET UPGRADE**

Speed availability varies depending on location. Contact us for details.

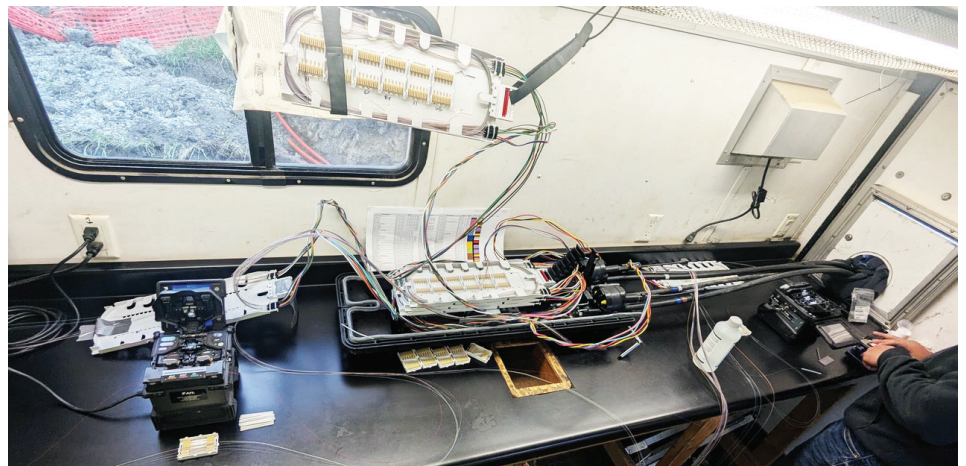
We'll Mail Capital Credit Checks This Fall

Capital Credit checks will be mailed out to our cooperative members in November, refunding approximately \$2,000,000. We will be refunding the remainder of 2006 and 30% of 2024. Please make sure we have your current mailing address, especially if you use eBill or paperless billing.

Thanks for Coming to Our 75th Annual Meeting

All of us at Runestone Telecom greatly appreciate your participation and support. Your patronage means so much to us, and we're happy to be a part of your community! It's always fun to see our members come to our Annual Meeting and enjoy each other's company.

We'll share photos from our 75th Annual Meeting in our next newsletter issue, and we hope to see you next year for our 76th Annual Meeting.



Runestone Telecom Makes Way for Roundabout

In June, fiber maintenance was necessary to make way for the upcoming roundabout at the intersection of State Highway 27 and State Highway 114, west of Alexandria. Our existing fiber cables were in the construction path and had to be relocated.

The project was completed in two phases:

- **Phase 1** involved moving and splicing our 144-count fiber cable.
- **Phase 2** focused on relocating and splicing our 288-count fiber cable.

To minimize service downtime for our customers, we deployed two splicers working simultaneously in each trailer during both phases of the project.

How to Get Less Spam in Your Inbox

While most spam emails are relatively harmless and just annoying, keep in mind that scammers also use them to unleash phishing attacks and expose you to malware. That's why it's important to take steps to reduce the number of spam emails that get through to your inbox.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends using these strategies:

- **Use an email filter.** Check your email account to see if it has a tool to filter out unwanted emails or to funnel them into a junk email folder. Many email providers (like Gmail or Yahoo) have strong spam filters turned on by default. But there are ways to make them work even better. For example, if any spam makes it through to your inbox, mark it as spam or junk. Filters aren't perfect, so even emails that make it past the filter might still be spam. Also, check your spam or junk folders occasionally to make sure non-spam email didn't end up in there.
- **Block unwanted emails.** Check your email provider's settings for steps to block unwanted emails. Try blocking specific email addresses or email domains (the part of the address after the @).
- **Check to see how companies will use your email address.** Different websites and apps handle your privacy differently. When you give a company your email address, it might share or sell it to third parties. Checking a company's privacy policy might help you see how they'll share your contact information.
- **Unsubscribe from unwanted emails.** Many email providers have features that help you unsubscribe from email lists. They may show up as a banner or as a button when you open the email. To find out what options your email provider has, search online for the name of your email provider, plus "how to unsubscribe from unwanted emails."

Here's an added bonus: When you reduce spam emails, it's easier to manage the emails that are important to you.



988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Offers Hope

Too many people experience suicidal crisis or mental health-related distress without the support and care they need. However, help is readily available.

By calling or texting 988, a person can connect directly with a mental health professional via the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline). The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is a national network of more than 200 crisis centers, staffed 24/7 to provide confidential assistance. These centers are supported by local and state sources as well as the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Veterans can press "1" after dialing 988 to connect directly to the Veterans Crisis Lifeline which serves our nation's Veterans, service members, National Guard and Reserve.

Handy Reminders

- Conveniently pay your bill with eBill and AutoPay.
- Pay your bill by the 20th of the month to avoid late fees and disconnection. Please don't use staples to attach your checks.
- Scan to go directly to the TV Guide.





Thank you, Brady and Maci Combs

Brady Combs, Network Technician, and his adorable daughter, Maci, represented Runestone Telecom in our community's summer parades this year. Thanks for helping your dad, Maci! We couldn't ask for more friendly and enthusiastic participants.

New Members

Barrett

Woodall, Donna.....320-528-2369

Wheaton

Rustic Edge Floral
and Décor LLC.....320-563-8969
Samuelson, Carol.....320-563-8377

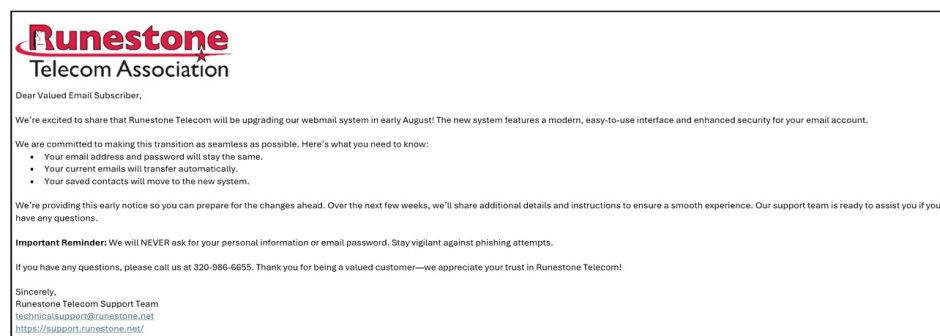


Do You Use a Runestone.net Email Address?

Runestone Telecom will be migrating to a new email server at the beginning of August, so our webmail and spam filter interface will have a new look.

As a part of the email conversion, we're sending out three emails to let customers know about the changes. The first email was sent in late June. The second email will be sent closer to the conversion date, and the last one will be sent after the conversion.

Below is an example of what we sent out in June:



Important Reminder: We will NEVER ask for your personal information or email password. Stay vigilant against phishing attempts.

If you have questions about your email, please call our Internet Department at 320-986-6655.