

Connections

MAY 2026

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.

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

technicalsupport@runestone.net

Visit Us: www.runestone.net

Find Us:    

Office Closure

We'll be closed on Monday,
May 25th for Memorial Day.
Trouble calls will be handled
by our on-call technicians.

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.



Runestone
Telecom Association

Make Life Easier With an Authorized Contact on Your Account



Do you have someone you trust to help manage your account? A spouse, family member, or close friend can be added to assist you. Whether they assist with paying bills, reporting service issues, or troubleshooting technology, adding them as an authorized contact can make things much easier for everyone.

For your protection, we're required by law to keep your account information private. That means without your permission, we cannot share details about your bill, make changes to your account, or discuss service — even with someone close to you. Your privacy matters, and this is one way we help protect it.

By adding an authorized contact, you're giving us permission to work with that person on your behalf when needed. It's a simple step that can save time, reduce frustration, and ensure the right person can step in to help when you need it.

We recommend taking a moment to check your account, especially to make sure your spouse or trusted helper is listed.

There are two ways you can add an authorized contact:

1. Stop by our office at 100 Runestone Drive in Hoffman to fill out the form.
2. Visit runestone.net, and click on CPNI Form (located under Resources at the bottom of the page). Then download the form, fill it out, and either mail it to our office or email it to rtaoffice@runestone.com.



Honoring Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice

Memorial Day—observed annually on the last Monday of May—commemorates the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. Please join us in honoring their sacrifices and supporting their grieving loved ones.

Congratulations, Chris Veldhouse, on the MTA Safety Award

Safety is always a priority at Runestone. Chris Veldhouse, Outside Plant Manager, works hard to ensure our team stays prepared through regular safety training throughout the year. From ladder and vehicle safety training to classes on CPR and emergency preparedness, our staff is equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to stay safe on the job.

We're proud to share that the Minnesota Telecom Alliance (MTA) Safety & Education Program recently recognized eight companies with safety awards for their commitment to maintaining strong safety practices. Runestone Telecom was honored to be among them, and we appreciate Chris for all his work. Thank you, Chris!



Pictured in center: Chris Veldhouse

Let's Celebrate Local Graduates and Teachers

As the school year comes to a close, Runestone Telecom celebrates the achievements of local graduates and the teachers who helped them succeed. Congratulations to the Class of 2026! We wish you all the best in what's ahead. And to our incredible teachers, thank you for the difference you make every day. Be sure to show your appreciation during Teacher Appreciation Week, May 4th–8th.



Recognizing Work Anniversaries

20 Years – Ryan, Network Technician

On May 15th, Ryan celebrates 20 years with Runestone Telecom. Over the years, he has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to our team and is always willing to lend a helping hand wherever it's needed. Ryan is known for his positive attitude and friendly smile, making him a valued part of our workplace. Thank you, Ryan, for 20 years of dedication and for being such an important part of the Runestone family!



10 years – Braeden Long, Network Technician

On May 2nd, Braeden celebrates 10 years with Runestone Telecom. He brings strong energy and dedication to his work each day, while also giving back through his volunteer efforts in the community. Braeden is always willing to support his coworkers and approaches every task with a positive attitude. Thank you, Braeden, for 10 years of hard work and for being such a valued part of the Runestone family.





Take Your Runestone Email With You Anywhere



It's Easy to Set Up Your Email on Your Phone

Want to check your email on the go? You can quickly set it up on your smartphone in just a few steps.

Step 1: Download the App

Head to your app store (iPhone or Android) and download the Zimbra app.

Step 2: Get Started

Open the app and begin setup using your email address and password.

Step 3: Choose the Right Settings

If prompted, select IMAP (this keeps your email synced across all your devices).

Step 4: Enter Server Information

When asked, use the following:

- **Incoming Mail Server:** mail.runestone.net
- **Outgoing Mail Server:** mail.runestone.net
- **Incoming Port:** 993
- **Outgoing Port:** 465
- **Security Setting:** SSL/TLS (for both Incoming & Outgoing Ports)
- **Authentication:** Your established email address and password

Tip: On some devices, you may only need your email address and password.

Need a Hand?

We're here to help. If you run into any questions during setup, just give us a call at 320-986-6655. We'll walk you through it!

FanDuel Sports Network Update - Channel 29.1 and 29.2

We want to share an update about FanDuel Sports Network. While we have not received any official notification, all indications are FanDuel Sports Network will cease to exist following the first round of the NBA and NHL playoffs.

We know many of you enjoy following the Minnesota Wild and Timberwolves, and we share in your disappointment but please understand this change this is totally out of our control. Our team is closely monitoring where these games may air in the future and do our best to get them back on our system if possible. We'll keep you informed as we learn more.

New Members

Belgrade

Schwinghammer,
David 320-254-3130

Brooten

Engen, Martin
& Kayla..... 320-346-4263

Elbow Lake

Haarstad, Chris 218-685-4882
Swenson, JoAnn..... 218-685-4985

Hoffman

Strunk, Steven..... 320-986-2635

Kensington

Lloyd, Brian 320-965-2568
Wicklund, S 320-965-2494

Lowry

Muzik, Robert L..... 320-283-2055

Sauk Centre

Countryside Service . 320-352-5143
Pallow, Ron & Jan..... 320-352-6050
Zwack, Tom & Krissi.. 320-352-2994

Tintah

Braun, Robert..... 218-369-2446

Find Us on Yelp

As your local cooperative, we're always looking for ways to stay connected with our communities. You can now find Runestone Telecom Association on Yelp (www.yelp.com). Check it out to learn more about our services and what makes us different. You can't beat local service from people who live and work in your community.





Free Twins Tickets and More Summer Fun

It's Twins Baseball season and we want you to be there! Look for our booth at the Grant County Fair and the Traverse County Fair this summer, since we'll be giving away sets of Twins tickets. You can register at our fair booth for a chance to win or follow us on Facebook and Instagram and watch for our contests. A Twins outing with your family and friends would help make it a great summer!

Runestone Telecom can't wait for all of these summer events:

76th Annual Meeting

July 8th at West Central Area School in Barrett, MN

Grant County Fair

July 16th-19th

Traverse County Family Fun Night

July 27th

Traverse County Fair

August 27th-30th

Grant County Get Together

September TBA

Watch for us in the parades too!

Welcome Western Stearns County

We're excited to announce that Runestone Telecom is currently connecting service in our most recent project area of Western Stearns County. As a cooperative, we strive to provide exceptional service and value to our local communities and members. Thank you for choosing Runestone Telecom as your service provider!

SECURITY HINTS AND TIPS: Spotting Disinformation Online

Have you ever clicked a dramatic headline, only to find the story didn't match? That tactic is called *clickbait*, and it's one of the many ways misleading information spreads online. Disinformation is designed to confuse, spark strong reactions, or influence opinions. It often spreads quickly through social media, email, or websites that appear legitimate.

Here are common types of disinformation to watch for:

- **Fabricated Stories** – Completely made-up information presented as fact
- **Altered Photos or Videos** – Edited visuals that change reality
- **Imposter Sources** – Content posing as a trusted organization or person
- **Misleading Information** – Real details presented in a deceptive way
- **False Context** – Real content paired with an unrelated or incorrect story
- **Mismatched Headlines** – Titles or captions that don't match the content
- **Satire or Parody** – Humor that can sometimes be mistaken for real news

You can adopt these simple habits to avoid being tricked:

Check the Source

Look at where the information comes from. Reliable sources identify authors, cite information, and are transparent.

Verify to Confirm

If something seems surprising, check other trusted sources to confirm the story.

Use Fact-Checking Tools

Independent fact-checking sites can quickly help determine what's true. Taking a few extra seconds to question what you see can help stop false information from spreading.



Pause Before You Share

- Who published this?
- Can I find it elsewhere?
- Does the headline match the article?

Runestone Telecom is sharing this information because we want your online experiences to be positive ones. The more you know, the less chance you'll be misled.