



United States Department of Agriculture

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News Release

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USDA Invests \$14.5 Million to Expand High-Speed Internet in Seven Wisconsin Counties

(Stevens Point, Wis., October 26, 2026) — U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Wisconsin State Director Andrew C. Iverson announced more than \$14.5 million in USDA financing for a West Wisconsin Telecom Cooperative project that will expand fiber-to-the-premises high-speed internet across seven rural Wisconsin counties. The project will improve internet access for residents, businesses, farms, and schools in Buffalo, Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, and St. Croix counties.

“This project is about more than broadband. It is about connecting people across these seven counties to greater opportunities and economic growth,” said **Iverson**. “USDA’s investment in high-speed internet infrastructure will expand access to healthcare and educational opportunities, strengthen business connectivity, and support job creation, helping rural communities connect, compete, and thrive in an increasingly digital world.”

The funding announced today is provided through USDA’s Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantees program, which offers direct loans and loan guarantees through the Federal Financing Bank to support telecom transmission and distribution facilities. More information about the program is available [online](#).

USDA Rural Development invests in rural America with loan, grant, and loan guarantee programs to promote rural prosperity. Our programs expand access to high-speed internet, electric, and transportation infrastructure, and support business growth, healthcare, education, housing, and other community essentials. Discover more investment details and historical data in the [Rural Data Gateway](#) and learn more about the agency at www.rd.usda.gov/wi.

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