

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/LIN UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 1, 2008**

Company: FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY
Address: 301 2ND ST S
PO BOX 368
BELLINGHAM, MN 56212
Telephone number: 320-568-2105
Company contact: KRIS RADERMACHER
Study Area Code: 361389

Lifeline/Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached _____.)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/Link Up.* (See attached _____.)
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Link Up information available on Company website. (_____)
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): DISTRIBUTED IN OUR NEWSLETTER

* Required

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Under a law the Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) eligibility requirement, which, also, updates the Federal Lifeline Credit program requirement, changes the offer of telephone assistance to the subscriber at their primary residence. From here forward, annually you must provide proof of eligibility to receive the monthly credit to your phone bill. You are now eligible for TAP if you provide proof of participation in:

- Medicaid/Medical Assistance (MA)
- Food Support (food stamps)
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- National School Free Lunch Program

If you do not qualify under the above criteria, but live on a federally recognized reservation, you can also provide proof of participation in one of the following:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Head Start (only for those meeting the income qualifying standard)
- Tribal National School Free Lunch Program

If you do not participate in any program listed above, but your income is at or below 135% (\$12,569) of the Federal Poverty Guideline please attach one of the following documents:

- Last year's State, Federal or Tribal Tax Return
- 3 Consecutive Months of Most Recent Paycheck Stub
- Veterans Administration Benefits Statement
- Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation Statement
- Child Support Document
- Current Annual Income Statement from Employer
- Social Security Benefits Statement
- Retirement/Pension Benefit Statement
- Divorce Decree
- Other

NOTE CHANGE OF REQUIREMENTS: If you currently receive a TAP/Lifeline Credit on your primary residence telephone billing, please provide Farmers Mutual Telephone Company with current proof of eligibility based on above listed criteria. Farmers Mutual is now required to gather this proof on an annual basis.

If you no longer receive benefits from any of the programs listed above or have not provided Farmers Mutual with proof of eligibility you will no longer receive TAP/Federal Lifeline Credit discount after February 1, 2007. Your February 10, 2007 billing will no longer reflect the discount.

If you have questions about the changes to the TAP/Federal Lifeline Credit Program, please call the SD Public Utilities Commission at 1-800-332-1782 or Farmers Mutual Telephone Company at 320/568-2105.

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company Management

South Dakota Telephone Service Discount Application
(Please Print)

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone Number (if existing service): (_____) _____ - _____
MUST be in applicant's name Area code & 7-digit number

Telephone Number where you can be: (_____) _____ - _____
Reached or receive messages Area code & 7-digit number

Name of your local telephone company _____

No. of people living in your household _____

1. **I am currently participating in the following program(s): *Check all that apply and provide proof of participation***
 - Medicaid/Medical Assistance
 - Food Support (food stamps)
 - Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8 Assistance
 - Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
 - National School Free Lunch Program

2. **I live on a reservation and participate in the following program(s): *Check all that apply and provide proof of participation***
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
 - Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
 - Head Start (only for those meeting its income qualifying standard)
 - Tribal National School Free Lunch Program

3. **I do not participate in any program listed in #1 or #2 and my income is at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Guideline. Please attach one of the documents below.**
 - Last year's State, Federal or Tribal Tax Return
 - 3 consecutive months of most recent paycheck stub
 - Veterans Administration Benefits Statement
 - Unemployment/Workmen's Compensation Statement
 - Child Support Document
 - Current annual income statement from employer
 - Social Security Benefits Statement
 - Retirement/Pension Benefit Statement
 - Divorce Decree
 - Other

I agree to notify the telephone company when I no longer participate in any of the above qualifying programs. I certify under penalty of perjury the above information is true. I have read the information on this application and understand I must participate in one of the above programs to receive telephone service discounts on my primary residential line.

Applicant Signature Social Security Number Date

I am an "Authorized Representative" for this applicant and am submitting this form on behalf of this customer. I am willing to assist this applicant in seeking telephone service discounts.

Print "Authorized Representative" name Daytime Phone Number Date

FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY
PO BOX 368
BELLINGHAM, MN 56212
320-568-2105 PHONE
320-568-2200 FAX
Email: farmers@farmerstel.net
Website: www.farmerstel.net

reject any or all bids and to waive any
 ven Kubista, County Engineer
 Lac qui Parle County, Minnesota
 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 2008

LEGAL NOTICE

ASSESSMENT NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. That the
 of Appeal and Equalization of the City
 inham in Lac qui Parle County, Min-
 will meet at the Office of the Clerk in
 ty, at 7:00 pm. on Tuesday the 13th day
 /, 2008 for the purpose of reviewing
 recting the assessment of said City for
 essment year 2008. All persons con-
 g themselves to be aggrieved by said
 nent, or who wish to complain that the
 ty of another is assessed too low, are
 notified to appear at said meeting, and
 ause of having such assessment cor-

complaint that another person is as-
 too low will be acted upon until the
 so assessed, or his agent, shall have
 otified of such complaint.
 ren under my hand this 8th day of
 2008

Curt Pederson
 Clerk of the City of Bellingham
 4/23, 4/30, 2008

gineer Steve Kubista stating hay
 bales cannot be left in the road ditch
 any longer than necessary.

Kubista presented a computer
 usage agreement with Chippewa
 County which was accepted for
 \$1,994.

The revised five year plan which
 was presented at the annual meeting
 of the township officers was pre-
 sented for approval. The changes in-
 cluded the replacing of the railroad
 on CSAH 7, 19 and 34 to be moved
 from 2010 to 2008 as Kubista was
 notified by officials from Burlington
 Great Northern Railroad that they
 will be in the area doing work on
 crossings. The county pays for the

bista stated liquid magnesium
 chloride will be applied at the prop-
 erty owner's expense. He has con-
 tacted the individuals who had dust
 control applied last year.

Kubista informed the commis-
 sioners the county highway depart-
 ment has received funding from the
 state for the bridge replacement on
 CSAH 15 along the Big Stone
 County line. A bid opening for this
 project will be held at the Tuesday,
 May 20 board meeting.

In other board action:
 The commissioners approved the
 reappointment of Mary Wodrich to
 the Family Service board.
 Board chairman Ivey Vonderharr

GRANT - DEUEL SCHOOL
The Future is Now

Parents and Students from the surrounding area are in-
 vited to attend an informal meeting at the Grant-Deuel
 School in Revillo, South Dakota on Monday, April 28th
 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. We are excited about shar-
 ing the educational career opportunities that our students
 access each school day. Please feel free to tour the facilities
 and visit with members of the staff and residents of the dis-
 trict. Each visitor will be given the chance to explore the
 opportunities available.

- Pre-school: Monday-Thursday, half and full days available
- 11-1 student/teacher ratio
- Transportation available
- Multiple classes available including Watertown Partnership and Multi-District.
- Several extra-curricular programs available.

Grant - Deuel School
605-623-4241

LOCAL MARKET

Monday's Market

corn.....5.65
 soybeans.....12.78
 soybeans Deliv. Dawson ...12.88

CALL 320-598-7351
1-800-827-6249



www.madisonenergyllc.com

PRINTING NEEDS!
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cated in Ortonville, Montevideo,
 Madison, Benson and Granite Falls.
 For more information visit:
www.countrysidepublichealth.org.

Call me for these great yielding varieties

CORN	SOYBEANS
46-60	2107
52-59	1403
51-39	1918-4
	1108-4

This is just an example of what I can still get for you this spring!

Jeff Olson Home - 320-752-4422
 Cell - 507-829-3572

Your Dekalb, Asgrow & Stine Dealer

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company Universal Service Advertising

Description of Available Services and Rates:

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company Available Services
 Farmers Mutual Telephone Company offers the following local exchange telecommuni-
 cations services to all consumers throughout its serving area:

- Voice grade access to the public switched network;
- Local exchange service including an amount of local usage free of per minute charges under a flat rated local service package;
- Dual tone multi-frequency signal;
- Single party service;
- Access to emergency service;
- Access to operator services;
- Access to interexchange service;
- Access to directory assistance; and
- Toll blocking without charge to qualified low income customers.

Basic, local exchange residential monthly service rates, excluding EAS rates, are as follows: \$10.00

Subsidized discounts are available to customers meeting certain low income criteria. Information concerning these plans is available from your Farmers Mutual Telephone Company representative at 1-800-692-0021

Geographic Areas Where Services Are Available: Farmers Mutual Telephone Company offers service in the following exchanges:

Bellingham (320-568)	Cerro Gordo (320-752)
Marietta (320-668)	West Marietta (605-678)



2008 Construction Update

The year 2008 will be busy as Farmers Mutual Telephone Company continues our buildout of a fiber to the premise network for our membership. Contractors for Farmers Mutual for 2008 are as follows:

Blaskoch Excavating & Utility, Willow River Minnesota who will provide the plow crew and installation of the fiber. One of Farmers Mutual's service technicians works with this contractor during the construction.

J. Carlson Construction ~ J. Carlson's crew splices the fiber network together.

Construction plans for 2008 include:

Cerro Gordo Exchange: There are a few conversion that need to be completed in this exchange. Technicians are working to complete these conversions and will be in touch with these members in the near future.

Bellingham Exchange: Contractors for Farmers Mutual will begin construction in the Bellingham exchange as soon as possible this spring.

These plans call for constructing over 185 miles. We ask for your patience and understanding as we work to complete this portion of our fiber to the premise network. *Of course, Mother Nature will have the final say!*

If you are a member in the construction areas listed above, please watch the newsletter and your mail for more details. If you are contacted by a technician for Farmers Mutual, please respond to them as soon as possible to keep the project running smoothly.

Attention: SecureIT Plus Customers

Change is good! Or in this case, change is *very* good...SecureIT Services will soon have a new look and enhanced features!



SecureITSM
Complete. Computer. Protection.

SecureIT Plus is about to undergo a major overhaul ~ becoming significantly enhanced to provide optimal performance.

What does this mean for you? A better product, therefore increased peace of mind that your computer is being properly protected. More specifically, the SecureIT Plus will be upgraded to include the following...

- Improved anti-virus integration with Sourcefire's Clam AV engine
- New malicious software prevention features
- Significantly smaller download package
- Improved management console with exciting new look and feel
- Monthly reports according to registration date rather than the first of each month.

What will you need to do to get the updated product?

The update will happen automatically, without you having to lift a finger. The only thing you will be prompted to do after the update occurs is reboot your computer. That's it!

FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY 2008 CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS

If you are unable to come to our annual meeting, watch for your capital credit check to be mailed after the April 1st, 2008 meeting. These checks will be mailed separately from the regular telephone bill. Make a mental note to watch your mail for an envelope marked "Importance Notice" from Farmers Mutual Telephone Company.



We are pleased to provide our Internet customers with a FREE subscription to Website Compass magazine. This publication is full of valuable information on understanding and using the Internet. Website Compass is published quarterly at a newsstand rate of \$9.95 per issue. Through Local PRIDE Alliance, Farmers Mutual is able to provide our customers with this valuable guide free of charge.

Check out the Website Compass Magazine on the Local Pride Alliance website at www.localpridealliance.com

One more reason to subscribe to Farmer's Internet Services!

WARNING!! BEFORE DIGGING CALL



Simply Dial 811



"IT'S THE LAW"

Minnesota Statutes Law §216D

You must use the services of Gopher State One-Call, Inc. and the Gopher State One-Call Center

48 Hours Before Digging Call

Dig Safely.

**SOUTH DAKOTA
ONE CALL
1-800-781-7474**

News from the Board Room:



The Board of Directors for both Farmers Mutual Telephone Company and Federated Telephone Cooperative wish to be open and informative with our memberships.

While no decision nor formal plans have been approved or adopted by either cooperative's board of directors, some discussion has occurred over the last year regarding the possibility of merging the two companies into one cooperative.

At this point, the boards are looking at the pros and cons and are simply discussing the possibility.

More information will be provided to the memberships of both cooperatives if discussions progress.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The Farmers Mutual Telephone Company (Farmers Mutual) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). “Farmers Mutual is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.”



Administrative Professionals Day

***THANK YOU KRIS RADERMACHER, OFFICE MANAGER,
AND JACKIE JESSEN, CUSTOMER SERVICE
REPRESENTATIVE, FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND
DEDICATION THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!***

Phone Discount for Low Income

There are several programs that provide assistance with paying your phone bill. The Lifeline program is federally funded and will provide a credit of up to \$9.13 each month on your phone bill. To be eligible, you must be enrolled in one of the following programs:



Low Income Discounts Available

- Medicaid
- Food Support (food stamps)
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Household Size	Income
1	\$14,040
2	\$18,900
3	\$23,760
4	\$28,620
5	\$33,480
Each additional person	\$4,860

If you qualify for a Lifeline credit, you will also qualify for the Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP). This program offers an additional \$1.75 monthly discount on your phone bill.

For more information or an application, please contact our office by dialing 611 from your home phone or 568-2105.

Directory Additions

Marietta:

Lien, Sonija M..... 668-2408

Cerro Gordo:

Bendel, Jeffrey 752-4219

Femrite, Chris..... 752-4569

Femrite, Loren 752-4345

Johnson, Jeffrey V. & Carla 752-4674



April Showers Bring May Flowers!

As a member of Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, you are also an owner of the company. Purchasing your telecommunications services from FMTC is ultimately purchasing services from yourself. One of the benefits of belonging to a cooperative is accumulating capital credit dividends each year based on your patronage and the profit of the cooperative. Invest in yourself - purchase your services from Farmers Mutual Telephone Company - a company you know and trust. A company you own.

*Orman Street, President
Gerald Stensrud, Vice President
Lloyd Hanson, Secretary
Lyle Dahle
David Falness
Mark Hoffman
Diane Morken*

Office Contact Information

Office: PO Box 368
301 2nd Street South
Bellingham, MN 56212

Office: 1-320-568-2105 or 611
1-800-692-0021

Repairs: 1-320-568-2105 or 611
1-800-692-0021

Fax: 1-320-568-2200

Office Hours Monday—Friday
8:00 am—4:30 pm

email: farmers@farmerstel.net www.farmerstel.net



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