

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2016**

Company: Valley Telephone Company

Address: 100 Main Street
P O Box 277
Underwood MN 56586

Telephone number: 320-695-2111

Company contact: Kim Olson

Study Area Code: 361495

Lifeline/Tribal Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution. * (See attached advertisement published in Valley News)
- Letter to existing and new customers (welcome Letter) regarding the availability of Lifeline/ Tribal Link Up.* (See attached newsletter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory. (attached)
- Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. (www.parkregion.com)
- Company's information posted on USAC website.
- Other (describe): _____

*Required

Lifeline/Link-Up Program

You may qualify for discounted telephone service. The Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Lifeline/Link-up Program provides for discounted telephone service for Americans whose income falls below certain guidelines. If your income level falls at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, then you will qualify for discounted telephone service under the terms of the FCC's Lifeline/Link-Up Program. Consumers will also be eligible to receive the discount if they're receiving assistance from at least one of the following programs: Food Stamps, Medicaid, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program, Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA), Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

Another version of the Lifeline/Link-Up Program is the Tribal Program. It provides basic telephone service for just \$1 per month to people of all races living on tribal lands and expands the eligibility requirements to also include those participating in Tribal Head Start (those meeting the incoming qualifying standard), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance programs, Tribally administered Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TTANF) and the Tribal National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program. . To enroll in the Lifeline/Link-up Program, please call 1-866-290-1729.

Welcome! We are
glad to have you....

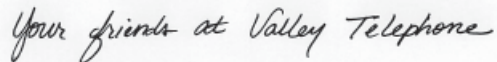
...as a customer and want to take the time to thank you for choosing Valley Telephone. Our parent company, Park Region Telephone, has been providing quality telecommunications services to the area since 1906 and we are proud to bring that tradition of excellence to Browns Valley.

If you have questions or concerns about your telephone service at any time, please call our office toll free by dialing 611 from any phone receiving service from us.

We'll also be happy to discuss with you other telecommunications needs you might have for your home or business and then offer solutions from our broad range of products and services.

Again, thank you for choosing Valley Telephone Company! It's our privilege to serve you.

Sincerely



The Staff of Valley Telephone

Welcome! We are
glad to have you....

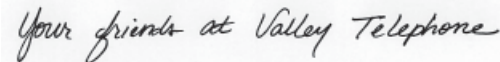
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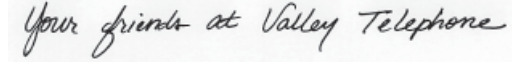
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Calling Features

Following is a list of available features and pricing. Please note, some restrictions apply.

Call Waiting	N/C
Call Forward	N/C
Three-Way Calling	N/C
Call Transfer	N/C
Toll Control with PIN	\$4.00
Speed Calling 8-Number	N/C
30-Number	N/C
Automatic Callback/Repeat Dial	\$1.50
Automatic Recall/Last Call Ret.	\$1.50
Call Trace \$1.00 per successful activation	
Caller ID	\$4.00
Caller ID Deluxe	\$4.75
Telemarketing Do Not Disturb* (must also subscribe to Caller ID Dlx)	\$2.00
Selective Call Forwarding	\$1.50
Call Screening/Call Rejection	\$1.50
Selective Call Acceptance	\$1.50
Priority Ringing/Priority Calling	\$1.50
Find Me	\$4.95

Anonymous Call Rejection and Caller ID Blocking have no monthly charge.

A \$15.00 one-time installation charge applies on all services.

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How to Contact Us

You can reach our office toll free by dialing 611 from any phone subscribed to our service.

Valley Telephone
Subscribers dial 611 or 695-2111 for customer service & repair 24 hours a day. Correspondence should be directed to PO Box 277 Underwood, MN 56586

Park Region Telephone
PO Box 277
100 Main St.
Underwood, MN 56586
218.826.6161
800.247.2706
Office hours 7:30am - 5pm Mon-Fri.

Otter Tail Telcom
230 W Lincoln
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218.998.2000
888.716.8837
Office hours 8am - 5:30pm Mon-Fri

Web Address: www.parkregion.com

E-Mail: sales@parkregion.com

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Our Services

INTERNET

Bundle your residential phone line and Internet at a great rate, includes junk mail assistance.

Up to 2MB	\$42.45
Up to 4MB	\$53.45
Up to 6MB	\$63.45
Up to 8MB	\$79.40

some speeds may not be available in all areas
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Speedway Wireless Home Network Plan \$7.95
Our wireless routers are configured for added security, includes wire maintenance and tech support.

SecureIT Plus - computer protection for viruses and spyware, pop-up blocking and more \$4.95/mo

We also offer dedicated modems, a full range of Web Page Services, High Speed Connection Service, and LAN/WAN wiring. Our experts have been in the Internet business since 1993.

Check your e-mail from anywhere at <http://web.prtel.com/webmail>

TELEVISION SERVICE

Our cable television service offers 32 channels for \$46.95/month

Premium Channels:

HBO	\$18.95/month
Encore/Starz	\$10.00/month

LONG DISTANCE

- Available to business and residential
- No calling plans or time restrictions
- No monthly fees or minimums
- Billed with Valley local service

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Some Important Information

Directory Listing

Your name, address and phone number will be listed in the next issue of the directory (with the exception of Non-List and Non-Published numbers) which has an issue date of May 1. However, this information will become part of the area information records soon after your service is connected. We call the information into the area information center daily, but it usually takes a day or two to become active in Directory Assistance.

Directory Information

On the first several pages of your Valley Telephone Company Area Wide Directory published by Valley Telephone, Farmers Mutual Telephone, Federated Utilities and Hometown Solutions, you'll find the following helpful information:

1. Emergency Numbers
2. Repair Service Assistance Information
3. Long Distance & International Calling Info
4. Local Calling Areas
5. Area Codes
6. Calling Feature Instructions

Review this information carefully as it directly affects the use of your service.

Billing Policy

Our rates are based on the issuance and payments of bills received on a monthly basis. The billing date is the first day of the month, with the due date the 15th of each month. Local phone service and cable TV are billed one month in advance. Internet services and long distance charges are billed in arrears.

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FEDERAL LIFELINE PLAN

You may qualify for a monthly federal Lifeline credit on your telephone bill if your income level falls at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guideline or if you are receiving benefits under one or more of the following programs:

Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security (SSI), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Federal Public Housing Assistance or the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

You may certify eligibility by calling: 1-866-290-1729

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How Are We Doing?

Any additional comments or suggestions:

I would like more information about:

- High Speed Internet
- Package Pricing
- Electronic Billing/Auto Payment
- Voice Mail/ Caller ID
- Business Phone Systems
- Wireless Telephone Service
- Television Service
- Long Distance

Please Mail the information
 E-mail the information to
 _____@_____
 Call me at _____

Please return this card in the enclosed envelope.

Optional:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Thanks for your time & your business!

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the progress

NEWSLETTER

In this issue

- Annual Meeting Save the Date
- Meet Blue
- Service Awards
- FREE HBO Preview
- Like us on Facebook
- Broadband Grant Program
- Lifeline Link Up
- Go Green: Pay Phone Bills Online



PARK REGION
Mutual Telephone Co.

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Valley Telephone
Browns Valley, MN 56219
Call 800.247.2706
for 24 hour service.
OR
simply dial 611 to reach
your local office!

www.parkregion.com

Internet • TV • Telephone

MEETING the Challenge 2015

Annual Meeting and Customer Appreciation Event

Thursday, April 16, 2015
UNDERWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL

5:00-6:30 PM Registration

- Registration - NW Entrance
- Lion's Pork Chop Dinner - Commons Area
- Coffee & Cookies with the Board of Directors - Gym
- Entertainment & Product Demonstrations

6:00-7:30 PM Kids' Area

- Movie, Popcorn & Prizes for Kids Ages 4-12

6:30 PM Annual Meeting

- Election of Directors
- Financial, General Manager & Youth Reports



Service Awards

Park Region Telephone & Otter Tail Telecom employees were recognized at our company Christmas party for their years of dedicated service. Park Region board member, Bonnie Denzel, was also recognized for service to the company. That's a total of 240 combined years of dedicated service!

Front row, left to right: Christel Samuelson, Karen Thompson, Kathy Wahlgren, Jodi Sjolie, Susan Stengrim

Back row, left to right: Bonnie Denzel, Brenda Olson, Lorie Huseeth, Dean Sonmor, Tim Jensen, Mary Jo Beigler, Kevin Fladhammer



Hey Kids!

Meet Blue on June 12th

Blue from Blue's Clues will be joining us in Fergus Falls and Underwood on Friday, June 12th! Watch our Facebook page for more details!

HBO Free Preview

Our television customers will have four days of FREE HBO from April 10 to April 13. Our cable TV customers will find HBO on channel 303 and our Digital TV customers will find it on channel 300. Love what you see? Sign up for monthly HBO programming for as little

as \$18.95/month. HBO's programming consists primarily of theatrically released motion pictures and original television series, along with made-for-cable movies and documentaries, boxing matches and occasional stand-up comedy and concert specials.

HBO **CINEMAX**

FREE PREVIEW WEEKEND APRIL 10-13!



For more information about all of our services visit
www.parkregion.com



Like us on
Facebook

Don't forget to like
us on Facebook! →



Go Green: Pay Phone Bills Online

Why? Help save natural resources by paying online.

- Easy, fast and secure
- Pay immediately, schedule a payment or set up Auto-Pay
- Print receipts, view payment history and more

Pay on the Go with PSN Payments App available in the App Store™ and Google Play™.



Call us at 998-2000 or go to **www.parkregion.com** for more information.

We Accept:



Broadband Grant Program

The Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program has issued \$19.4 million in grants to expand broadband service in unserved and underserved regions throughout Minnesota. The grants, which provide up to 50 percent of project development costs, will bring high-speed Internet to nearly 6,100 homes, 83 community institutions and hundreds of businesses statewide.

Otter Tail Telecom was awarded three grants for expansion in the West Swan Lake area, Stuart Lake area and 245th Street area of Fergus Falls. Otter Tail Telecom CEO Dave Bickett, participated in a

press conference on March 4th held at Gateway Building in Fergus Falls, along with Lieutenant Governor Tina Smith, Minnesota Office of Broadband Director Danna MacKenzie, and others.



Left to Right: Danna MacKenzie - MN Office of Broadband Development; Lt. Governor Tina Smith, and Dave Bickett - Otter Tail Telecom General Manager

Lifeline Link Up

You may qualify for discounted telephone service if your income level falls below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or if you are currently receiving benefits under one or more of the following programs: Medicaid, food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Federal Public Housing Assistance, or the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

For more information about the FCC Lifeline/Link-Up Program, call one of the following numbers:

Otter Tail Telecom Customers
1-866-290-1730

Park Region Telephone Customers
1-866-290-1721

Valley Telephone Customers
1-866-290-1729

New Listings

ASHBY

Bergstrom, L.747-2143
 Doughty, Bill & Linda.....747-2166
 Fagre, Adam & Margaret747-2142
 Hegna, Dave & Fran747-2221
 Thormodson, Joel.....747-2136
 Tollefson, Jennifer747-2137

BROWNS VALLEY

Dohman, Todd & Marcy.....695-2226
 Roark, Adam694-2623
 Spindler, Leo.....695-2803

ERHARD

Strickland, J.....842-5188

FERGUS FALLS


Bachand, Gary.....998-0289

MAINE

Stoen, Todd & Mary.....495-3102

UNDERWOOD

Courtney, M & J826-6495



MOVIES
in the
PARK

THURSDAY NIGHTS
following
CONCERTS in the PARK

Take our survey and vote for your favorite movie to be shown this summer at Roosevelt Park.

www.parkregion.com



Hurry! Survey ends soon!



PARK REGION
Mutual Telephone Co.



OTTER TAIL TELCOM

PO Box 277 100 Main St.
Underwood, MN 56586

About Minnesota Relay

Minnesota Relay is a free service providing full telephone accessibility to persons who are deaf, deaf/blind, hard-of-hearing, or speech-disabled. A specially trained communication assistant (CA) facilitates the telephone conversation between a person who has hearing loss or a speech disability and a hearing person. Calls can be made to anywhere in the world (long distance charges apply), 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, with no restrictions on the number, length or type of calls. All calls are strictly confidential and no records of any conversations are maintained.

Minnesota Relay is administered by the Telecommunication Access Minnesota (TAM) program within the Minnesota Department of Commerce. The Minnesota Relay center is located in Moorhead, MN. Minnesota Relay and associated

outreach services are provided to the state under contract with Communication Service for the Deaf.

Minnesota Relay is funded through a monthly surcharge on each wired and wireless telephone access line in the state.

For specific instructions on placing or receiving a Minnesota Relay call, please see the instructions on page 9 of this directory or visit the Minnesota Relay website at www.mnrelay.org.



Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan

The Minnesota Telephone Assistance Plan (TAP) may provide eligible persons with a credit of up to \$3.50 per month on their phone bills. You are eligible for the assistance if participating in one or more of the following programs:

- * 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
- * Under 135% of Federal Poverty level

If you do not qualify under the above criteria, but live on a federally recognized reservation, you can also qualify if you participate 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)
- * National School Lunch Program's free lunch program

If you are participating in one or more of these programs, you may certify eligibility by completing an application, providing proof of eligibility for benefit, and submitting it to our business office. Please contact our business office for an application.

Federal Lifeline Plan

You may qualify for a monthly federal Lifeline credit on your telephone bill if you are receiving benefits under one or more of the following programs: Medicaid, Food Stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or the National School Free Lunch Program.

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For Lifeline Information and applications:

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company Customers

Call 1-800-692-0021

Federated Telephone Customers

Call 1-800-374-7133

Valley Telephone Company Customers

Call 1-866-290-1729