



EAST BUCHANAN TELEPHONE COOP & COUNTY LINE FIBER

March Newsletter



County Line Fiber Expands Fiber Network Across the Region, Encourages West Oelwein Residents to Schedule Site Surveys
Over the past year, County Line Fiber - powered by East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative - has made major strides in bringing high-speed fiber internet to more homes and businesses in the area. Construction crews have officially completed all fiber splicing to homes in South Oelwein, marking a significant milestone in the company's multi-phase expansion plan.

In Hazleton, progress is well underway with nearly half of all fiber splicing completed, and residents and businesses in both expansion areas can now sign up for services. As work continues, County Line Fiber remains focused on delivering reliable, future-ready connectivity to as many residents as possible.

Next Stop: West Oelwein With South Oelwein completed and Hazleton at the halfway point, County Line Fiber is now turning its attention to West Oelwein. Crews are currently conducting site surveys throughout the area to determine the best placement for fiber lines on potential customers' homes. Any homeowner that does not have a site survey completed will not be eligible for a free connection to our fiber network. These surveys are a crucial step in the installation process, ensuring that each property receives the most efficient and effective fiber connection possible. County Line Fiber is encouraging anyone who lives in West Oelwein - or if you know someone who does - to reach out and schedule a site survey. Early participation helps streamline construction planning and ensures residents are among the first to receive service once fiber deployment begins.

Looking Ahead: Lamont in 2026
In addition to current construction, County Line Fiber has announced plans to bring fiber internet to homes in Lamont in 2026. This expansion will extend high-speed connectivity to another community eager for reliable broadband Internet

A Note on Rural Expansion
While town-based fiber deployment continues to move forward, County Line Fiber emphasizes that rural areas remain extremely challenging to build without grant funding. The cost of construction in low-density areas is significantly higher, making state and federal broadband grants essential for future rural expansion. The cooperative continues to monitor Lucky funding opportunities to make rural fiber more feasible.

As a friendly reminder to our rural customers with East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative or County Line Fiber services, we ask for extra care during spring ditch-burning season. Please avoid burning near the orange fiber markers, as these posts help us accurately locate underground facilities when responding to Iowa One Call notifications. Last spring, over two dozen marker posts were accidentally damaged and had to be replaced, which can create delays and added expenses. If fiber markers or related facilities are damaged, the property owner may be responsible for the cost of repairs. We truly appreciate everyone's help in keeping this important infrastructure protected.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- Mike's Moments
- 2026 Board of Directors
- Call Before You Dig
- Open Burn Caution
- Daylight Savings Time
- St Patty's Day
- Do Not Call Registry
- Recipe
- 3 names



Look for the 3 names for a chance to win \$10 off your monthly invoice!
Look for Lucky, Skipper & Fred

2026 East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative



Front (L-R): General Manager Mike Becker, President Terry Peterson, Vice-President Joe Bahe, Secretary Eldon Baragary, Treasurer Rose Hansen.
Back (l-R): CPA Todd Thorson, Colin Koch, Daniel Cocking, Kenny Gericke, Bill Crow, Nancy Mosher, Attorney Andrew Steffensmeier.



**LUCK
O'THE
IRISH**

**Happy St.
Patrick's Day
2026!**

Don't let your
pocketbook
go up in
SMOKE



Controlled burning has a lot of benefits for the soil, but did you know that the burning of ditches and damage to utility markers and lines could cost you hundreds or even thousands?



Burning ditches could result in EBTC Fiber markers and Fiber pedestals and/or the contents inside being damaged or destroyed. If this happens, the cost to repair the damage would fall on the individual(s) involved in the fires. Please be smart and safe while burning.



National Do Not Call Registry

Report Unwanted Calls Verify Your Registration Replenish Your Privacy

If you are tired of telemarketing calls you can visit <http://www.donotcall.gov> to put your number on the FCC's Do Not Call list. Once you register your phone number, 31 days later you should be removed from telemarketers' calling lists. Once registered, it does not expire. The exceptions are political calls and any pre-existing business relationships.

Day Light Savings time falls on Sunday March 8th. Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead 1 hour Skipper.

Mint Chocolate Cookie Ice Cream Pie

Ingredients

- 3 pints mint chocolate chip ice cream, softened
- 1 store-bought chocolate cookie pie crust
- 1 1/2 cups crushed mint chocolate sandwich cookies
- Whipped cream, for topping

Directions

- 1 | Scoop 1 1/2 pints of the mint chocolate chip ice cream into the chocolate cookie pie crust and spread until smooth. Sprinkle with 1 cup of the crushed cookies and press so they stick to the ice cream. Freeze until solid, about 1 hour.
- 2 | Top with another 1 1/2 pints ice cream. Top the pie with whipped cream and the remaining 1/2 cup crushed cookies and freeze until solid, at least 2 hours.

