



## **Corporate Location**

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## **Office Locations**

221 Main St Aurelia, IA 51005 **712.434.5989** 

2104 E 10th St Glencoe, MN 55336 **320.864.2818** 

111 Second Ave Goodhue, MN 55027 **651.923.5005** 

235 Franklin St SW Hutchinson, MN 55350 **320.587.2323** 

421 S CSAH 34 Litchfield, MN 55355 **320.593.2323** 

4690 Colorado St SE Prior Lake, MN 55372 **952.226.7000** 

137 E 2nd St Redwood Falls, MN 56283 **507.627.4111** 

121 Second Ave NW Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 507.794.3361

22 S Marshall Ave Springfield, MN 56087 **507.723.4211** 

### Nuvera TechTrends

15 Berens Blvd New Ulm, MN 56073 **507.233.3000** 

# 2024 Fiber Internet Construction Season Kicks Off Soon

Spring is just around the corner! Nuvera employees and construction partners are excited to get started on new fiber internet projects and finish up a few that were carried over from the 2023 construction season.

In 2023, we reached a significant milestone, with more than 50% of our network now converted to fiber. Here are more noteworthy numbers from the 2023 construction season:

- Passed more than 17,000 homes and businesses with fiber
- Physically connected over 10,000 homes and businesses with fiber internet
- Engaged in 35 fiber projects in 21 communities
- Added new communities to our service area: Arlington, Dassel and Hector

2024 will be another fast-paced season of fiber construction. Nuvera is committed to communicating with residents and businesses in our construction areas as the process begins. Customers and noncustomers will receive messaging when construction is about to ramp up in their area and when connections become available.

In the meantime, there are helpful resources available on Nuvera's construction website at **nuvera.net/construction**:

- A timeline of Nuvera's construction process as we showcase each step from notification to installation of services
- Nuvera's two-step restoration process explaining what happens during active construction
- A form to answer questions or request assistance for customers that may experience issues
- A detailed service map along with prices and products available

We are excited about the progress we've made on the Nuvera Gig Cities fiber internet project and the project plans for this construction season. We are proud to be part of building strong communities across southern Minnesota and northern lowa with an internet service that supports the speed and reliability our residents and businesses need to succeed.

OFFICE

## **Small Business Saturday Winners**

Congratulations to Crow River Auto for winning the Grand Prize Drawing of a \$500 VISA card in Nuvera's 2023 Small Business Saturday Contest! We are pleased to be providing them with the service they need to be successful in their endeavors.

<u>Crow River Auto & Truck Repair</u>, with 90 years of combined experience among their ASE certified techs, have made this a trusted locally owned and operated business since the 1980s. In 2023, the business came under new ownership and invested in new equipment to ensure the best service for their customers. Crow River Auto is located at 1020 Adams Street in Hutchinson and can be reached at 320.587.3910.

Our runner-up winners of Small Business Saturday were:Jamie L. Rieser Counseling and ConsultingPeters I507.354.0248659 ½ N. Minnesota St, New Ulm21

Peters Insurance 651.923.4433 215 N. 2nd St, Goodhue

## The New 924 Area Code in ( Southern Minnesota

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approved the 924-area code to address the growing demand for telephone numbers in the southern Minnesota region, which currently uses the 507-area code. Here is everything you need to know about the additional area code.

1. Which areas will be affected by the new 924-area code?

The southern Minnesota region, including Albert Lea, Austin, Fairmont, Mankato, New Ulm, Northfield, Rochester, Winona, Worthington, and other smaller surrounding communities.

2. Why is the additional area code necessary, and when will it be in effect?

The 507-area code, in use since 1954, is projected to run out of numbers by 2025. To facilitate a smooth transition, residents and businesses in the 507/924 area code region will need to begin using all 10 digits for local calls. The transition started on January 30, 2024, and extends over a six-month period.

- 3. How to prepare for the transition?
  - January 30, 2024: Begin using 10-digit calling for all local calls.
  - July 30, 2024: Mandatory inclusion of the area code + number on all calls.
  - August 30, 2024: New numbers may be assigned the 924-area code.

4. How can individuals and businesses prepare for the transition?

- Check and update mobile phone contacts to include 10-digit dialing.
- Inventory devices and services storing numbers and plan updates.
- Local businesses should communicate the full 10-digit number to customers.

5. Are there exceptions to the 10-digit dialing rule?

There are no changes when dialing 911, 811, 988 and other 3-digit service numbers.

For questions, contact Nuvera at 844.354.4111 or go to <u>mn.gov/puc/</u> <u>consumers/new-area-code-924.jsp</u>

## Connect with confidence with Nuvera's Technology Guard.

Technology Guard offers you protection if you experience trouble with inside wiring and jacks for your phone, internet, or digital TV services. Sign up now for only \$6.95 per month.\*

Call **844.354.4111** or stop by your local Nuvera office to learn more!

\*A 12-month commitment is required. Some restrictions apply. Ask for complete details today.

Nuvera's team had a great time participating in winter parades this season in Litchfield, New Ulm and Arlington! We loved ringing in the holiday season with friends and customers throughout these service areas.

## **Spring Cleaning for Your Computer**

As the seasons change and thoughts turn to spring cleaning around the house, it's the perfect time to extend the spirit of renewal to your digital space, too. Here are a few tips to help you ensure your digital space is optimized and clutter-free.

### **Physical Maintenance:**

- Use compressed air to clean out dust from your computer's vents, fans, and other hardware components.
- Wipe down the surfaces with a microfiber cloth to keep them dust-free.
- Wipe down the mouse and other peripherals with a gentle cleanser.

### **Digital Cleanup:**

- Check for and install updates for your operating system, antivirus software, and other essential programs.
- Declutter your desktop by organizing files into folders.

 Identify and uninstall software applications that you no longer use. This not only frees up storage but also streamlines your system.

#### **Security Check:**

- Change passwords for critical accounts to enhance security.
- Consider using a password manager for added convenience and safety.
- Perform a full antivirus scan to ensure your system is free from malware.

In addition, consider bringing your computer in for a tune-up from Nuvera's TechTrends! The tune-up service includes diagnostic and hardware tests, virus and spyware removal, security and system updates, removal of temporary files and unwanted programs, and dust removal. Learn more at <u>nuveratechtrends.com</u> or call 507.233.3000.





