

# THE PROGRESS

OCTOBER 2022

## OFFICES CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY

In observance of Columbus Day our offices will be closed on Monday, October 10, 2022. Our 24/7 help desk will be available by calling 800.247.2706.

## SUN OUTAGES MAY AFFECT TV SERVICE

Twice a year, you may experience some degree of television interference due to "sun outages." Such outages are caused by a phenomenon called a "solar satellite interference." These brief outages occur when the sun is in direct line behind a satellite transmitting cable signals. When the sun is aligned with a satellite, solar radiation interferes with the satellite's signal and causes a brief signal outage.

Sun outages occur every year in the fall and spring and last approximately a week each time. During the sun outage, you may experience a pixelated or frozen picture or audio distortion for a brief period. This fall, sun outages are expected between 3:01pm on Saturday, October 8, 2022, and 3:54pm on Wednesday, October 12, 2022. Signal loss may last from 5 to 45 minutes.



100 Main Street N  
Underwood, MN 56586

230 W Lincoln Ave  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

218.826.6161 • 218.998.2000

[www.parkregion.com](http://www.parkregion.com)

24/7 Help Desk Available • 800.247.2706

## OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

Celebrated by cooperatives nationwide during the month of October, National Co-Op Month is an annual opportunity to raise awareness of a trusted proven way to do business and build communities. Under this year's theme, "Co-ops Build Economic Power," Park Region would like to share how we, as a cooperative, are building economic power in our communities.

Park Region Mutual Telephone Company has been a member owned cooperative since 1906. Over the years we have expanded beyond the cooperative area to further serve the local area with telephone, internet, and television. Between the cooperative area, Otter Tail Telcom, Valley Telephone, and Rothsay Telephone, we provide services to 7,119 broadband customers, 4,130 residential customers, and 1,457 business customers. Currently we serve 918 square miles including the towns of Ashby, Battle Lake, Browns Valley, Dalton, Erhard, Fergus Falls, Maine, Rothsay, Underwood, and Vining. We work closely with our neighboring telecom providers and local governments to share costs and leverage investments.

In the past 5 years we have invested over \$26 million for network upgrades including 1,136 route miles of fiber. By the end of 2022, Park Region Telephone, Valley Telephone and Rothsay Telephone will have collectively provided 82% of our customers with fiber to the home and internet speeds up to 1 Gbps. This is 100 times the national average of 10 Mbps! Our goal is to provide fast, reliable, and local fiber to all our customers. Each year we continue to provide fiber infrastructure to the areas we serve. As we plan for the 2023 construction season, we continue to work with local and state governments to build our fiber infrastructure to rural underserved areas. Park Region has been serving our cooperative members for over 100 years. As we continue to expand our footprint, we are building economic power to take our members well into the future!

Throughout the month of October, members are encouraged to pop into our Underwood office to receive a bag of Mother Goose & Beans kettle corn and to sign-up for a giveaway of a Nest Protect Smoke & CO Alarm (\$119.00 value). Registration for the giveaway will begin Monday, October 3, 2022, and end Monday, October 31, 2022. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm. We would love the opportunity to thank you in person for your continued patronage.



## RECEIVE FREE INSTALLATION OF PRTVNOW!

Park Region's streaming video service prtvnw! delivers a wide selection of local and national programming. We provide you with the best fully featured streaming video service that goes beyond the connection. All that is needed is our high-speed internet connection and a compatible streaming device. Features to enhance your viewing experience include:

- Cloud DVR, Replay TV, Restart TV, and Watch TV Everywhere
- Ability to view programming on your favorite mobile device
- HD programming when available for enhanced resolution
- No more bulky set-top boxes

Visit us at [www.parkregion.com/television/](http://www.parkregion.com/television/) to view our TV programming channel packages. Call us at 218.826.6161 or 218.998.2000 to speak with a customer service representative to receive **FREE** installation of prtvnw! Call today as this \$45.00 offer expires October 31, 2022.

## STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Park Region Companies prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities based on 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. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (braille, large print, audiotape) 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 Ave SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 800-795-3272 or 202-720-6382 (TDD).