

LOCAL COMPANIES JOIN FORCES TO BRING THE FUTURE TO OSCODA COUNTY

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Three local companies are currently collaborating to bring reliable high speed internet service to communities in Oscoda County. Essential Services Group (the new industrial park in Fairview, Michigan), M-33 Access (Rose City-based internet service provider), and Rob's Computer Shop (technology consultant and local-based subsidiary of Northern Host) are working together to provide the very first fiber optic lines to both residential and commercial consumers, bringing technological advancement and a revolutionary leap into the future.

After considering all possibilities to provide internet service to the industrial park, there were two viable solutions: put up a wireless tower to feed internet service to all the industrial park buildings, or run a fiber line to the industrial park, starting near the school in Fairview. While wireless was the most feasible option to get up and running quickly, the owner of the industrial park had much larger plans in mind. After several unsuccessful attempts by other organizations to bring widespread high speed internet to the area, Joel Yoder, owner of the industrial park, and Glenn Wilson, owner of M-33 Access are investing heavily in the fiber line, seeing the potential long-term benefits to the surrounding communities, notably the creation of new business and employment opportunities.

Fiber Internet works by channeling pulses of laser light at an astonishing rate of 186,400 miles per second to transmit digital information along strands of glass finer than a human hair, making it the fastest and most reliable internet currently available today. Major companies such as Facebook and Google utilize fiber optic networks to operate their businesses, and the technology is also used in telephone systems and medical imaging equipment. This service

greatly exceeds what is currently available to our communities, and prices are very comparable to current area internet services.

In upcoming months, anyone along the route of the industrial park's fiber line will have it available to them directly through M-33 Access, and expansions beyond the park are currently being planned. All construction for the fiber line is being done locally and several new jobs have been created in the process. For those interested in the new fiber internet service, M-33 Access is offering a special upfront "fiber to home" installation price for customers willing to sign up for service while the fiber is being ran.

For more information regarding this project, you can contact M-33 Access (989)-685-3027 or Rob's Computer Shop (989)-745-5273.