

Northern
Lakes
Economic
Alliance
Broadband
Fiber
Consortium

Mission
Statement

"The mission of the NLEA fiber consortium (NLEAFC) is to proliferate gigabit high-speed, reliable and cost effective broadband services throughout the Northern Lakes Economic Alliance region."

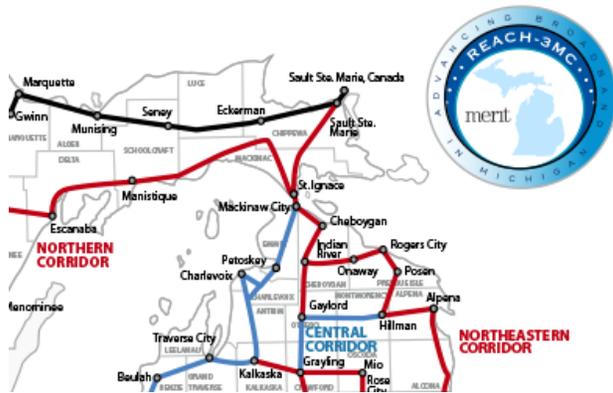
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REACH-3MC Network Infrastructure Map



“High Speed Broadband is fast moving from a ‘want’ to a ‘need’. Whether it be business, education or personal use; high speed, reliable internet is an important piece of the economic development puzzle”.

- Andy Hayes, NLEA President

Consortium Vision

- Unite and share regional resources and build a foundation of cooperation for potential opportunities in the area of internet, voice, and data.
- Increase the region’s ability to purchase of service and equipment through leveraging membership buying power.
- To promote partnerships and alliances to advance the community in economic development.

Next Steps

- Begin identifying NLEA Fiber Consortium members and NLEABFC Board Members.
- NLEA contracts with Merit for bandwidth.
- Members contract with Merit for construction, membership and access.
- NLEABFC board continues to meet with interested new members.

To learn about how your community, business, or organization can become part of the NLEA Broadband Fiber Consortium, contact us:

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What is fiber?

Broadband is a powerful, enabling technology that is fast becoming the engine of economic growth in America. Increasingly, businesses seeking to open or expand operations look to see not only whether a community has robust broadband access but also whether potential workers have digital literacy skills and tools. The economic future of Michigan communities depends not only upon whether robust broadband infrastructure is present but also upon whether businesses and individuals fully utilize that technology to grow and develop local economies.

What is the consortium?

NLEA is working collaboratively with Merit Network to provide access to the fiber backbone throughout the region to connect government buildings, public schools, public libraries, medical facilities, businesses, and communities in an efficient, cost-effective manner. The NLEABFC facilitates a communication network to promote the development of inter-governmental, educational, medical and business opportunities which will provide a conduit to support community goals guided by the mission of all participating members.

What are the benefits?

Benefits of joining the Northern Lake Economic Alliance fiber consortium include network connectivity, discounted pricing, enhanced collaboration, regional cooperation, and aggregate bandwidth. The consortium promotes partnerships and alliances within the region to advance economic development for both the private and public sectors.

Eligible members:

- Counties, Cities, Villages, and Townships
- Community Colleges
- Public Libraries
- Public Schools
- Health Systems including Behavioral Health
- Underserved Private Businesses and Business Parks