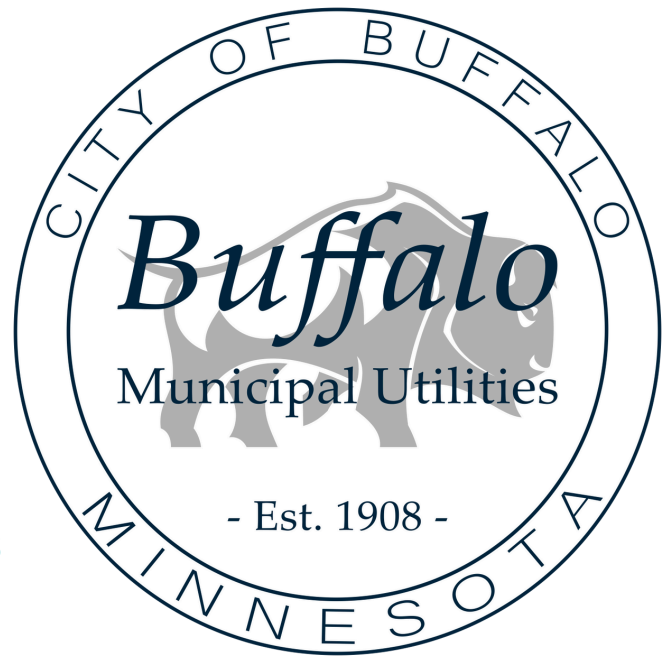


# THE BUFFALO BUZZ

[WWW.CI.BUFFALO.MN.US/157/UTILITIES](http://WWW.CI.BUFFALO.MN.US/157/UTILITIES)

**BMU**

**YOUR HOMETOWN UTILITIES  
STRONGER TOGETHER**



## Top News

- \*Letter from the Utility Director
- \*AMI Installation Progress
- \*New Crew
- \*Fiber Phase 2: Charging Ahead
- \*Water Service Line Inventory

## More Buzz

- \*Blooming Buffalo Native Plant Pre-Sale
- \*Summer of FUN in the SUN Bingo Challenge
- \*REBATES 2025
- \*Upcoming Events



## A Message from the Director

# Preparing for Growth: How Utilities Support Buffalo's Future

**Buffalo is growing.** New homes are being built, businesses are expanding, and more families are calling our city home. With that growth comes the need for smart utility planning to ensure our electric, water, sewer, and fiber services remain reliable and ready for the future.

### Planning for Expansion

Our long-range planning, in coordination with the city's community development team, anticipates hundreds of new homes in the northeast and southeast corners of Buffalo. A future industrial part in the northwest will allow for commercial growth as well. This expected growth places added demand on your community owned utility systems, electric, water, water reclamation, and fiber.

### Investing in Electric Capacity

One major project this year is the construction of Buffalo's second electrical substation. As our current substation nears peak capacity, this new facility will help meet growing demand, improve system resilience, and support future needs and growth.

### Water and Water Reclamation

We're proactively reviewing water & Sewer mains and assessing well capacity to meet future needs. Our sewer system is also being reviewed to ensure it can support additional flow, prevent backups, and reduce emergency repair costs. We have a water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant, both need to be prepared for growth and properly maintained to avoid the capacity of distribution and collection for the future.

### Fiber to the Home: Future-Proof Internet

Phase 1 of Buffalo Fiber is complete, with every local business now able to access high-speed service. We over 400 current residential, business, and industrial customers on our existing network. An additional 700 residents have already signed up as part of Phase 2, which continues to expand fiber access across Buffalo. Learn more at [ci.buffalo.mn.us/531/Bufferalo-Fiber](https://ci.buffalo.mn.us/531/Bufferalo-Fiber) or call us at 763-373-9272.

### Smart, Phased Investments

We take a phased approach to utility improvements by aligning projects with development timelines and available funding. Many large upgrades or growth are supported through grants, developer fees, and partnerships that help limit the financial impact on current customers. Utility rates fund ongoing maintenance to keep systems reliable and services high quality for the long term.

### The Bottom Line

Buffalo's utilities are preparing for tomorrow, and delivering reliable service today while building the capacity to support the future.

With Gratitude,  
Jason Meusburger  
Utilities & IT Director



**Your Hometown Utilities  
STRONGER TOGETHER**



## AMI: Citywide Installation

The City of Buffalo's AMI meter replacement project is progressing well. Installations of electric and water meters are being done by both city staff and Utiliuse, a professional meter installation company hired by the City.

Currently, 1500 electric meters and 938 water meters have been installed. The new meter system will provide efficiency in billing and maintenance, notification during an outage, and an interactive customer portal, providing the customer the ability to view the amount and when water and electric utilities were used.

To view where electric meters have been installed please visit the Buffalo Municipal Utilities website:

<https://www.ci.buffalo.mn.us/157/Utilities>

AMI: Project Phase Map



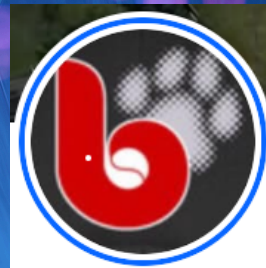
**Save the Date  
Customer  
Appreciation  
Day  
October 16th**

## REMINDER

Please report sanitary sewer backups immediately to the  
City of Buffalo  
Water Reclamation Department.

**Water Rec Staff will be deployed  
to check the main lines during  
the incident.**

**Buffalo Fiber hosted the Season Opener of the Buffalo Bulldogs. An evening filled with baseball, fun activities, a birthday and root beer floats. First pitch was thrown out by Miss Buffalo Rodeo 2024, Montana Martinson.**



**Hometown Team  
Buffalo Bulldogs**





# BMU Welcomes New Team Members



Joe is the Electric Department's drill operator and bore locator. Joe had worked locally for more than 5 years in the utility industry before becoming a part of our team. Being the main drill operator, he bores in conduit for electric power and fiber line installation, improving underground electric and fiber infrastructure.



Tami works in the Fiber Department, specializing in inside fiber installation. Tami had been installing fiber for several years before joining the Buffalo team. She loves the work and the variety of challenges. The part of her job she enjoys the most is meeting the customers and helping people.



Tyler is part of the GIS Engineering team. Tyler graduated from Mankato State University and worked in the GIS field for two years before coming to Buffalo. He appreciates the opportunity to use data and mapping to help crew members efficiently complete projects.



## Seasonal Crew Helps ‘Git Er Done!



**Kasie**

**Outside Fiber Installation**



**Charlie and Owen**  
**Fiber and Water Utilities**



**Conner and Wyatt**  
**Electric Utility**



**Lyla**  
**Utility Administrative  
Assistant**

**This summer a group of hardworking, dedicated people joined our utility ranks. Their role as seasonal workers is vital in the completion of many projects, from construction, field support, maintenance, and administrative assistance. Thank you Seasonal Crew for all YOU do!!!**



# Blooming Buffalo

## Go Native Plant Sale

The City of Buffalo is excited to partner with MNL for the first-ever **Blooming Buffalo – Go Native Plant Sale**. Help bring a touch of native wildflower beauty and essential pollinator habitat to your yard and community. With a variety of MNL Signature Plant Kits to choose from, you're sure to find an option that will thrive in your growing conditions.

**Order your native plant kits until August 24th.**

Choose from a variety of expertly designed plant kits for different growing environments. Learn more about each of the available plant kits by scanning the QR code below.

All plant kits will be available for pickup on **Friday, September 5** between 11:00 am – 5:00 pm at the Buffalo Civic Center.

**Plant Kits are \$89.00**

Every kit includes 36 plants (*plant species will vary*)

Buffalo Utilities customers are eligible for an additional **\$35 rebate** (*applied to your utilities bill*) as well as a **Go Native** bundle. Bundle includes a yard sign, rain gauge, and pollinator seed packets. Buffalo Utilities customers pay **\$54** after rebate.

**Scan to View Kits**



*Go Native*

Receive a  
**GO Native Bundle**  
with plant kit purchase.



**Buffalo Summer FUN in the SUN BINGO CHALLENGE!!!**

**It is NOT too LATE to BINGO!!!**

**Pick up your card today at Buffalo Community Center**

**or**

**visit the City of Buffalo Website.**

**Win a half hour Canoe, Paddleboard or Kayak rental for BINGO any way. Coverall BINGO and be placed in a drawing for a 4 hour pontoon rental with a picnic for 4!!!**

**One entry per person. Entries must be turned in to the Buffalo Community Center by July 31, 2025.**





# Buffalo Fiber Update: Phase 2 Charging Ahead

**Buffalo Fiber continues to expand** across the city as Phase 2 moves forward at full speed.

Mainline installation have been completed in Rodeo Hill and the Shonhaugen areas. We've now completed 30 service drops in the Rodeo Hills area. Next, our team will be splicing and connecting those drops to the larger passive optical network (PON) cabinets and central offices (CO). This behind-the-scenes work is crucial to bring homes fully online.

We anticipate that home installations in both the Rodeo Hills and Shonhaugen areas will begin in mid-August and into September.

**Mainline fiber construction** is wrapping up in the South Pulaski neighborhood near the middle school. From there, crews will move into West Pulaski starting in July, and will continue over to the Greenbriar and Misty Meadows neighborhoods to complete this phase of the project. The project is expected to be completed this year, with some minor restoration expectations in the spring.

To build awareness and encourage participation, our fiber specialists, technicians, and seasonal staff recently canvassed the entire Phase 2 project area with door hangers. These efforts, combined with advance construction letters, have helped drive a noticeable increase in sign-ups from residents.

## **By the Numbers**

As of today, we have received over 700 total sign-ups in Phase 2. Our team continues to follow up with residents to help them decide if the service is right for you.

If you're unsure whether Buffalo Fiber is available at your address, visit

<https://www.ci.buffalo.mn.us/531/Bufferalo-Fiber> to check availability and sign up today.

## **The Bigger Picture**

By the end of Phase 2, Buffalo Fiber will offer high speed internet to over 2,700 new homes. Our network provides symmetrical internet speeds up to 1 gigabit today, with the ability to scale up to 10 gigabits in the future. We are proud to offer fast, reliable, local service; delivered by your hometown utility.

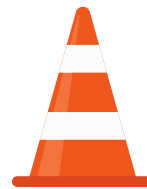
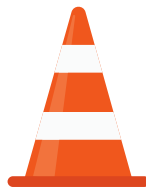
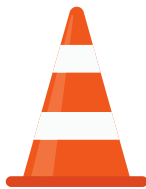
Questions? Call us directly at **763-373-9272**. We are here to help you connect.



# Buffalo Fiber

Fast. Local. Reliable.

The Water Reclamation crew is busy jetting and cleaning the sanitary sewer collection system this summer. If you see them in your neighborhood please slow down and use care when approaching the work area.



## 2025

### Residential & Commercial Rebates

\*Lighting, Appliance, AC, Irrigation, Tree, Shrub and MORE

## STILL AVAILABLE

Check out BMU's Electric and Water Rebates at  
[ci.buffalo.mn.us/159/services](https://ci.buffalo.mn.us/159/services)





# Water Service Line Material Inventory Update

Buffalo Municipal Utilities Water Department has submitted its initial inventory of water service lines to the Minnesota Department of Health. The water staff have confirmed there are NO known customer lead service lines within the city limits.

**Following are the findings for the known service line inventory.**

Zero	Lead
65	Galvanized
10,378	Non lead (Copper or Plastic)
200	Residential Unknown

Water staff continues to connect with residents to confirm the service line material on their property. If you have any questions regarding your water service line, please contact the Water Department 763.684.5432.

## Fall Hydrant Flushing will take place October 6th through 17th.



### COWBOY CAVIAR

1 15oz can Black Beans, drain and rinse well  
2 cups Corn, fresh or frozen  
1 small Red Onion, finely diced  
1 cup Red Bell Pepper, diced  
½ cup Black Olives, chopped  
1 Jalapeno Pepper, seeded & finely diced  
Juice of one Lime  
1/2 cup of your favorite Italian Dressing

Directions....

\*Rinse and drain black beans.

\*Combine all veggies and beans into a large bowl. Add Lime juice and Italian Dressing,

\*Salt and Pepper to taste.

\*Gently combine ingredients..

OPTIONAL ADDITIONS: ¼ cup of Cilantro; ½ cup of diced Cherry Tomatoes; diced Avocado  
Eat with chips or as a side dish, this recipe is fresh, colorful and delish!



# POWER OUTAGE: WHAT to DO

Safety is Buffalo Municipal Utilities' priority during power outages or when recovering from a storm.

- ⚡ Please be aware of electrical hazards.
- ⚡ Stay away from downed power lines.
- ⚡ Be sure to report branches on lines that are arcing or sparking, even if your power is still on.

Buffalo Municipal Utilities has 24/7 On-Call Crews to handle all Emergency Situations. When reporting an outage please call 763.682.1001, follow the prompts and leave a message.

Messages are monitored.

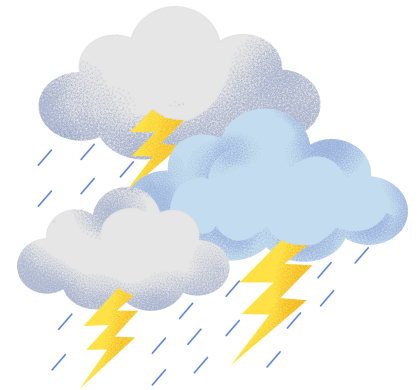
Crews are alerted and immediately deployed.

Due to the high-risk nature of the work, and to safely do their job, the crew needs to remain focused, so please leave a message.

The Crew will continue working until ALL power is restored!



Search for the twelve Summer themed words below.



BARBECUE	LEMONADE	SUNSCREEN
BEACH	POOL	SWIMMING
FLIP FLOPS	SUMMER	VACATION
ICE CREAM	SUNGLASSES	WATERMELON

## How to Report a Power Outage!

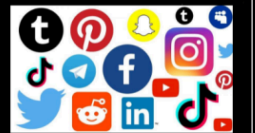
**Call: 763-682-1001**

Follow the Prompts!

Leave the following info:

- Name
- Address
- Phone Number
- Describe the Problem

Please DO NOT report Emergency Situations on Social Media.



**The City of Buffalo has On-Call Crews to handle all Emergency Situations that may happen.**