



Dear Future Member,

Thank you for your interest in Allband Communications Cooperative. The enclosed packet includes information and documents you will need to become a member of the Cooperative. Please review the enclosed application checklist carefully and return any needed applications and other documentation in the enclosed envelope.

In each packet you will find a:

- ✓ Service Documentation
- ✓ An Application Checklist
- ✓ Membership Application
- ✓ Easement Contact Form
- ✓ Drop Location Map
- ✓ Drop Location Map Demo
- ✓ Life Line Service Information
- ✓ Return Envelope

Allband Communications Cooperative is the only non-profit ILEC (Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier) telephone cooperative in Michigan. Allband's service area, known as the Robbs Creek exchange, is an irregularly shaped, 177 square mile area just southeast of Hillman, MI and just north of Curran, MI. Allband plans to spend almost \$8 million dollars in the exchange on the first all fiber to the home (FTTH) system in the state. Each customer will have fiber optic cable installed to their premise **free of charge** and is capable of providing traditional telephone and advanced high-speed Internet services.

With the help of federal universal service funding, these services will be available at an affordable price. The Cooperative's feature-rich services are **\$20/month for basic phone service and an additional \$30.92/month for high-speed Internet access**. Each member can select Allband as their long distance carrier or one of the many alternate carriers that are available. A life line discount is also available for households that qualify (please see the included application for eligibility). Additionally, the Cooperative is planning for television and security services in the near future as part of our Phase 2 development.

The Allband Communications Cooperative Board of Directors and its staff look forward to serving you and providing reliable and affordable services to all of its members. We at Allband will not only be your phone company, but a member of the community you can rely on and trust. Please feel free to contact us at anytime with questions or concerns via the contact information below.

Ron Siegel  
General Manager  
ron.siegel@allband.org

**Allband Communications Cooperative**

**P.O. Box 8 • Curran, MI 48728 • Phone: 989-369-9999 • Email: [info@allband.org](mailto:info@allband.org) • [www.allband.org](http://www.allband.org)**

**NEED A TELEPHONE AT YOUR  
HUNTING CAMP OR HOUSE?  
WANT HIGH-SPEED INTERNET?  
SIGN UP NOW!!!**



**Premium Local Telephone  
\$19.90/month**

**Adjacent Exchange Calling  
\$0.10/month\***

**Domestic Long Distance  
\$0.099/min**

**Unlimited Domestic Long Distance  
\$24.99/month**

**Seasonal Telephone  
\$9.99/month\*\***

**High-speed Internet  
\$30.92/month \*\*\***

**Wireless Router  
\$40/\$50 (one time charge)**

**Solar Power Units  
No Charge\*\*\*\***

\* Unlimited free calling to: Fairview, Lachine, Hubbard Lake, Lincoln & Hillman exchanges.

\*\* Six month limit. For 911 use only, incoming/outgoing calls are restricted.

\*\*\* Cancellation before 12 months of service will result in a \$99.00 charge.

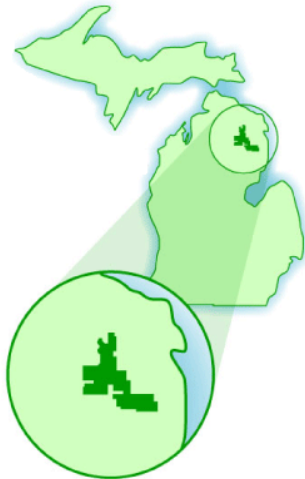
\*\*\*\* For cooperative members without commercial power.

Note: All rates are subject to required state, federal and regulatory taxes and charges.

### **New Construction Starts in the Spring of 2008!!!**

We hope that you will join our historic effort to bring telephone service to the un-served! As you may already know, Allband is the first non-profit telephone cooperative in the state of Michigan and will provide state-of-the-art telecommunication services that include telephone, high-speed Internet, future television and security services. Allband will be completing our build-out in the Robbs Creek Exchange, which is a 177 square mile area five miles north of Curran and just south of Fletcher's Pond along M-65, where the four corners of Montmorency, Alpena, Oscoda and Alcona Counties meet.

The attached map designates our exchange boundary and those within our boundary are eligible to receive Allband's services. To assure that each resident, camp or business will receive their services in a timely manner, potential members in the area who are interested in the service are asked to submit a membership application as soon as possible. The only money you will have to pay from the time you apply till the time you receive your first monthly service bill, is a non-refundable \$20 membership fee. All of the fiber optic telephone cable and electronics that will provide your services is installed at no cost to you! No commercial power? No problem! We will install a solar solution, free of charge, so your telephone always has power!



Allband's Northeast Michigan Service Area

**Allband  
Communications  
Cooperative**

**6491 N M-65  
P.O. Box 8  
Curran, MI 48728**

**Phone: 989-369-9999  
Toll Free: 866-500-6799  
Fax: 989-369-9998**



**A Typical Installation**

**Contact us now for an application!**

**Call Toll-free: 866-500-6799  
Or download it on our website at:  
[www.allband.org](http://www.allband.org)**

**We look forward to serving you!**

# Allband Communications Cooperative Robb's Creek Exchange (South)

R4E

R5E

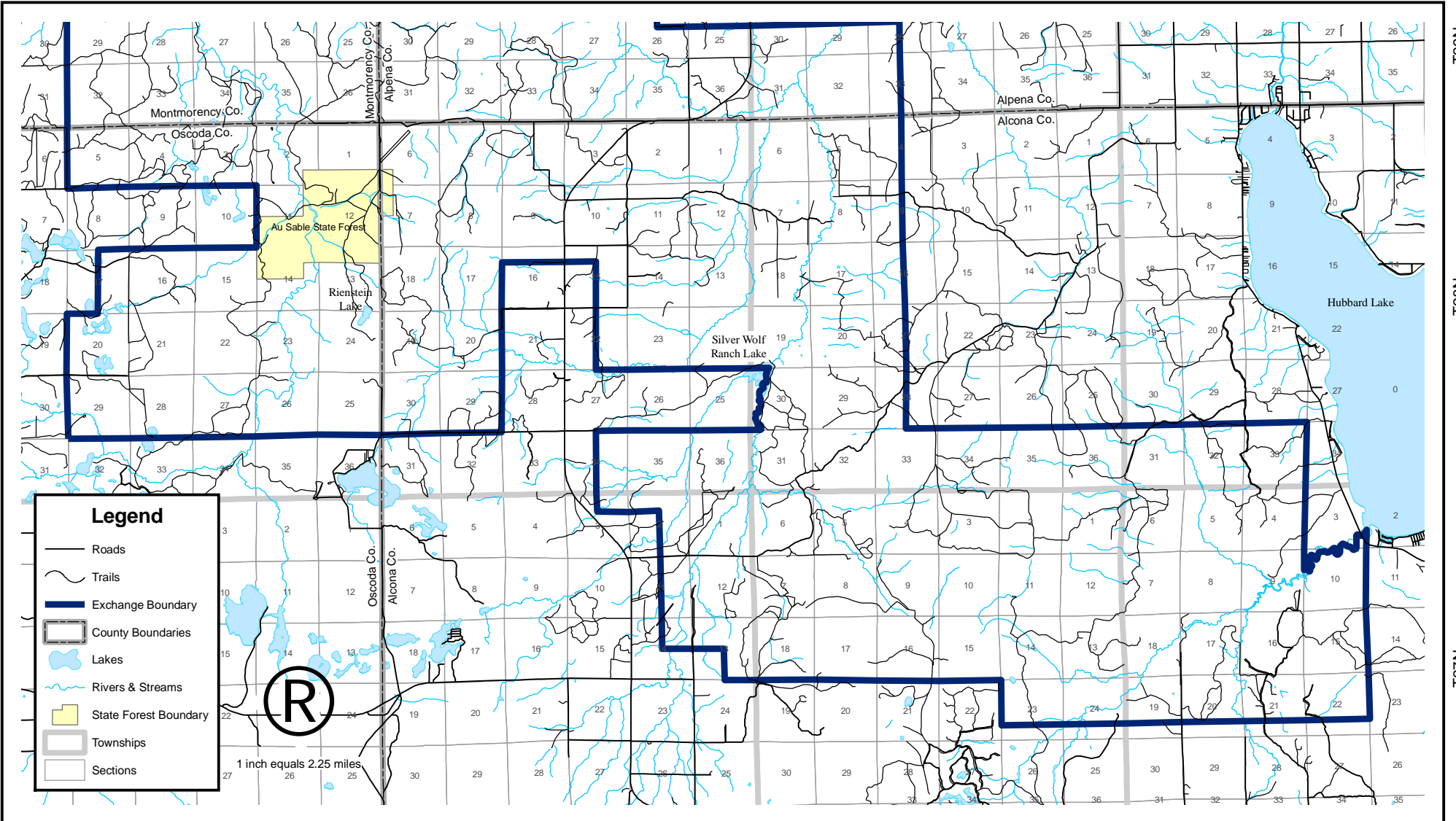
R6E

R7E

T29N

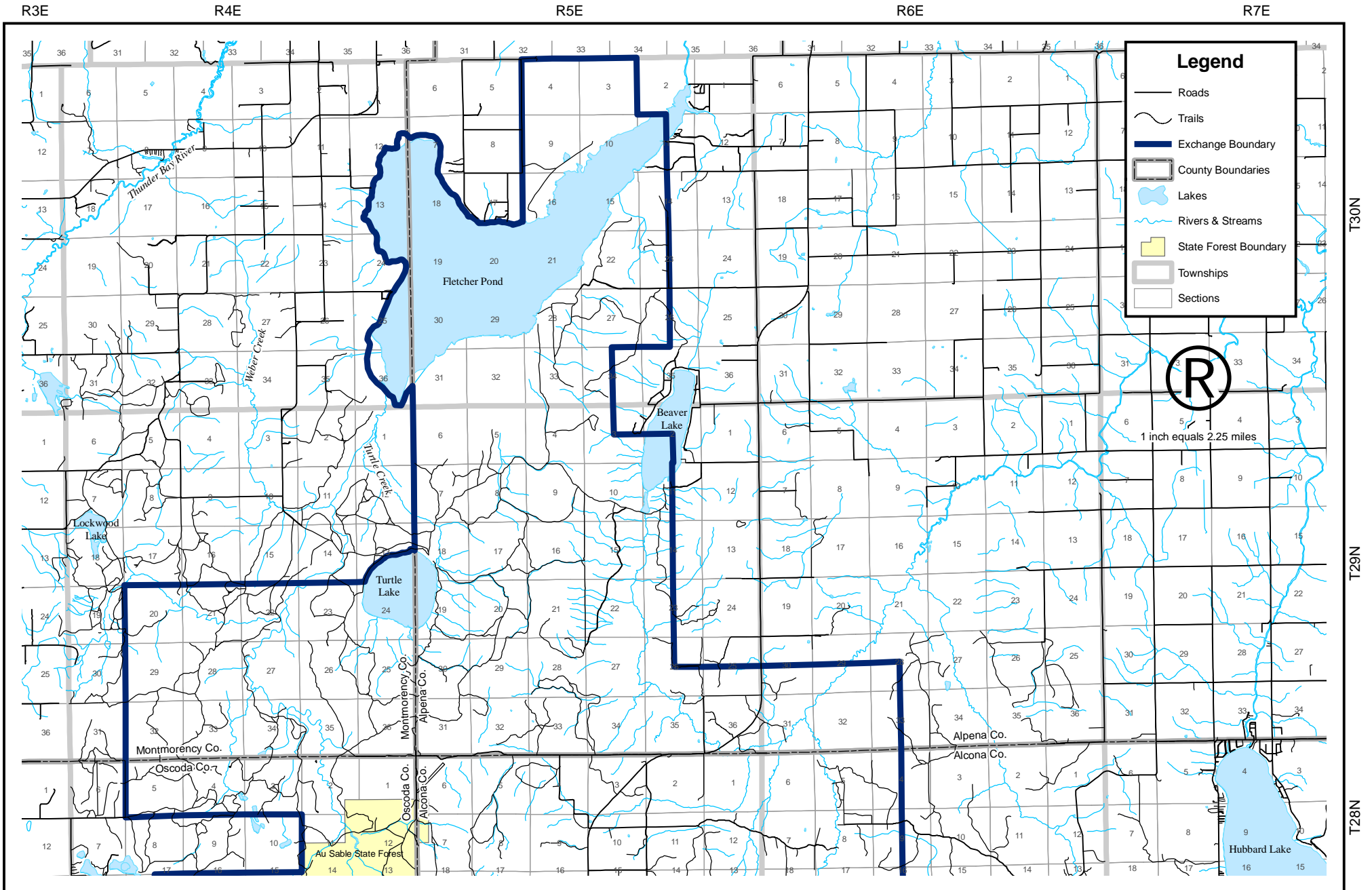
T28N

T27N



IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR LOCATION, PLEASE CALL US AT 989-369-9999

# Allband Communications Cooperative Robb's Creek Exchange (North)



PLEASE TURN OVER TO VIEW THE SOUTH SECTION!



## Standard Service Equipment

Each member of Allband Communications Cooperative will have an Optical Network Terminal (ONT) installed on their house or business. The ONT is a hardened, weather-proof device that is built to withstand the harsh weather of both winter and summer. This unit is supplied, installed, and maintained by Allband free of charge with service.

Two phone lines and an Ethernet port for Internet access are available in each unit over a fiber optic cable, which will be buried and connected to the ONT on the premise of each customer. These units are typically attached to the outside of the premise or inside a garage and then grounded for lightning protection. Standard telephone and Internet cable from the inside of the premise will then be connected to the ONT for service.

Allband will work with each member to determine the best location for the ONT and will ensure that each unit is installed correctly and to the satisfaction of each member. Additionally, Allband will consult with each member to determine if any additional inside wiring is needed and how to efficiently connect it to the ONT.

Each ONT must be connected to a battery back-up unit. If there is a power loss, this unit will supply power to the ONT, but restricts use to the phone line(s) only. These units are typically wall mounted on the member's premise next to or below the ONT. The unit requires a standard electrical outlet and must be plugged in at all times. **This unit is supplied, installed, and maintained by Allband free of charge with service. All wiring inside of the premise is the responsibility of the customer, but Allband will assist each customer with installation or sub-contracting if needed.**

Where possible, Allband will install an electrical collar inside your electric meter if it is located on your house and near your ONT. This gives Allband the ability to draw power from your meter to power the ONT and charge the battery. The collars give Allband the ability to power our ONTs even when the member turns off their breaker. These devices have been approved by Presque Isle Electric and Gas and use a small amount of power when charging.



**A Typical Installation**  
**Battery Power Supply (left) and**  
**Optical Network Terminal (ONT) (right)**



**A Power Collar after Installation**

**Each Allband ONT is able to connect with traditional telecommunication wiring (Figure 1) that may exist in each members premise:**

Traditional Category 5 wire as shown in Figure 2 will be connected to the ONT and can supply phone or Internet access to any desired location in the premise. For installations that do not have existing wiring, it is recommended that separate Cat 5 cables be used for both telephone and Internet connections.

**Each ONT can supply up to 2 lines per premise, or 4 if requested.**

A Category 5 cable (Figure 5) is required to connect a computer to the ONT for Internet access. It may be desirable for each member to hire an inside wire specialist to install Cat 5 wire in the premise if multiple computer locations are desired. If a member desires to network multiple computers with wiring or a wireless application, consulting can be obtained from Allband or an inside wiring specialist that is working on behalf of Allband.

If a premise has coaxial television cable installed (Figure 3), this cable can be utilized once Allband offers video services. Allband or an outside contractor will provide consulting to best determine how premise wiring that is already installed can be utilized and if new wiring is required. Allband will provide a list of approved contractors when requested.

Wireless routers (Figure 4) are available for purchase through Allband. Allband will pre-configure your router and install it for you at the time of your service installation. A typical one-time charge for a router is \$40 or \$50 dollars depending on the model and there is no mark-up on the equipment. Allband highly recommends the use of routers, especially if you are using computers running operating systems older than Windows XP Service Pack 2.

The benefits of using a wireless router are:

- One-time fee (no leasing)
- Ability to use multiple computers with your Internet Connection
- One-time PPPoE set-up on the router allows instant connections for new or guest computers (no configuration necessary)
- Has a built in firewall which will protect your computers from incoming and outgoing intrusions
- Allows computers with wireless capabilities to be used anywhere in your household from 400 to 1000 ft away (depending on model).



**Figure 1**  
**Telephone (Cat 3) Cable**



**Figure 1**  
**Tel/Data (Cat 5) Cable**



**Figure 2**  
**Coaxial Cable**



**Figure 4**  
**Linksys WRT54G**  
**Wireless Router**



# Application Checklist

**This checklist will assist you with the application process. Please review the following steps carefully and as always, feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns about the process.**

- ✓ Step 1: For your information, please review the enclosed documentation about the Cooperative and our services.
- ✓ Step 2: Please verify that you are located in our service area. If another phone company currently offers you service, we can not provide service to you at this time. If you can not determine if you are in our service area, please contact us for assistance at 989-369-9999 or 866-500-6799.
- ✓ Step 3: Fill out and sign the Application for Membership form.  
**(A \$20.00 Membership Fee payable to Allband Communications Cooperative must be included)**
- ✓ Step 4: Fill out the Drop Location Map.
- ✓ Step 5: Fill out the Easement Contact Form.
- ✓ Step 6: If eligible, fill out the Application for Lifeline and/or Link Up Services form.
- ✓ Step 7: Place the following documents in the enclosed envelope and mail it back to the Cooperative. Use the address listed at the bottom of the page.
  - Membership Application
  - \$20.00 Membership Fee
  - Drop Location Map
  - Easement Contact Form
  - Lifeline/ Link Up application (if eligible)
- ✓ Step 8: The Cooperative will review your application and issue a receipt for your membership fee payment.

Once your application is processed, Allband will contact you to schedule the installation of your fiber optic line and premise equipment. We will also go over your services and answer any questions you may have.



## Allband Communications Cooperative Application for Membership

PERSONAL INFORMATION			
NAME		MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME	
PROPERTY ADDRESS		COUNTY	
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
BILLING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM PROPERTY ADDRESS)			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
DAYTIME PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	WORK PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	E-MAIL (IF AVAILABLE)	
DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER	ISSUING STATE	BEST TIME TO REACH YOU? (TIME, WEEKEND, ETC.)	
EMPLOYER INFORMATION			
NAME OF EMPLOYER			
ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER			
IF SELF-EMPLOYED, TYPE OF BUSINESS			
SERVICE INFORMATION			
IS YOUR PROPERTY GATED?   YES   NO		DO YOU QUALIFY FOR LIFELINE SERVICES?   YES   NO	
ARE YOU A SEASONAL RESIDENT?   YES   NO		DO YOU HAVE COMMERCIAL POWER?   YES   NO	
PLEASE SELECT THE SERVICES YOU WOULD LIKE FROM ALLBAND :			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LOCAL TELEPHONE <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNET <input type="checkbox"/> ALLBAND LONG DISTANCE (YOU CAN SELECT AN ALTERNATE CARRIER)			
<b>Note: As a member of the cooperative, you are obligated per the Terms and Conditions to subscribe to basic local telephone service.</b>			
HOW MANY PHONE LINES (INDIVIDUAL PHONE NUMBERS) WILL YOU REQUIRE?: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 4			
IS YOUR HOME CURRENTLY WIRED FOR SERVICES? (PLEASE SELECT): <input type="checkbox"/> TELEPHONE <input type="checkbox"/> INTERNET <input type="checkbox"/> TV			

# ALLBAND COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

The undersigned (.Applicant.) hereby applies for membership in Allband Communications Cooperative (.Cooperative.), and the Applicant and Cooperative agree as follows:

1. Applicant will pay to the Cooperative a non-refundable sum of \$20.00 which, if this application is accepted by the Cooperative, will constitute the Applicant's membership fee. Upon acceptance of this application, a certificate of membership and bylaws will be issued to Applicant; it being understood that membership is not transferable nor is membership fee applicable toward payment of any bill. Membership is offered only to entities who receive local exchange telephone service from Allband Communications Cooperative.
2. Applicant, by paying membership fee and becoming a member, assumes no personal liability or responsibility for any debts or liabilities of the Cooperative and it is expressly understood that under the law his/her private property cannot be attached for any such debts or liabilities.
3. Subject to the terms and conditions of the Cooperative's tariffs, Applicant will purchase from the Cooperative telecommunications services used on his/her premises and supplied by the Cooperative. Applicant agrees that he/she will pay for such service (and equipment, if applicable) at the rates and charges fixed by the Board of Directors of the Cooperative in accordance with the lawful orders and directives of the Federal Communications Commission and the Regulatory Commission of Michigan. Applicant will pay a minimum monthly amount as set forth in the Cooperative's current tariff. Long Distance toll service is not included in the basic monthly residential or business line service, and will be billed separately by the Applicant's long distance carrier. Bills shall be payable immediately upon receipt and past due if not paid by the 25th day of the billing month or after any payment date previously established by agreement between Applicant and the Cooperative. If the bill is not paid when past due, the Cooperative will apply a late payment charge not to exceed Zero Point Eight Seven Percent (0.87%) each month on the unpaid balance. When the bill becomes past due, the Cooperative may start procedures for disconnection for non-payment. The procedure will include a written ten (10) day notice of disconnection of service, stating the date and time payment must be received in the Cooperative's business office and a \$10 late letter charge for such notice. If the subscriber does not pay the balance of the bill owing, plus any applicable late charges, or make arrangements with the Cooperative to make payments, service will be disconnected. Delinquent amounts may be charged to Applicant's credit card. Applicable Service Connection Charges, as set forth in the Rate Schedule of the current tariff, will apply to each re-connection of service on paid delinquent accounts.
4. Applicant will comply with and be bound by the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Cooperative, and such rules and regulations as may, from time to time, be adopted by the Cooperative.
5. Applicant, if a landowner, hereby agrees to grant to the Cooperative the right and easement to construct, operate, repair and maintain on his/her premises and in or upon all streets, roads, or highways abutting said premises, its telecommunications distribution and service lines and appliances and also the right to cut or trim trees necessary to keep clear all parts of the telecommunications system.
6. The Applicant, if a landowner, agrees that all poles, wires, and other facilities, including any equipment, installed on premises at Cooperative expense, shall remain the property of the Cooperative, removable at the option of the Cooperative upon termination of service to or on said premises.
7. The acceptance of this application by the Cooperative shall constitute an agreement between Applicant and the Cooperative and the contract for telecommunications service shall continue in force month by month from the date service is made available by the Cooperative to Applicant and thereafter until canceled by at least two (2) days notice by Applicant.
8. To provide our customers with their own accurate, detailed billing information, we maintain detailed records. We will not sell this Information in any form, including billing records, calling habits or type of service - to unaffiliated third parties. If you subscribe to our local telephone service, we provide you with the opportunity to request that your name, number and address not be published in directories or be made available through directory assistance. We will not provide customer email addresses to outside parties for the marketing of their products. We will keep customers' personal information secure and confidential through safeguards such as secure encryption technology and by requiring user names and passwords to access personal information.

**X**

SIGNATURE

DATE

**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO INCLUDE THE \$20.00 MEMBERSHIP FEE WITH YOUR APPLICATION. MAKE THE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO ALLBAND COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE. (NO CASH PLEASE!)**

OFFICE USE ONLY		
MEMBER #	LOCATION:	BY:



## Easement Contact Form

In certain locations, Allband may need to obtain easements from property owners with gas lines, power lines or on trails that are not classified as a county road. By obtaining these easements, Allband is able to better serve each customer by utilizing these rights of way and trails and gives us the ability to reach all the residents in the area. **Please remember that when a member receives telecommunication services from Allband, that member automatically grants the cooperative the permission to install needed cable and other equipment on the member's premise without an easement document. An easement WILL be needed when Allband needs to cross private property to reach another member's property.**

Since Allband members are also the owners of the cooperative, Allband only offers a payment of \$1.00 (the legal minimum) for any easements obtained and will not deviate from this amount. If an easement is needed, a representative from Allband will contact you via the phone, on location or through the U.S. Mail to discuss the situation. We ask that each applicant fill out the contact information of person(s) who can legally sign any needed easement documents. If this contact is not different than the member applicant please check the box below. Thank you for cooperation.

- By checking this box, I acknowledge that the contact information provided in the Membership Application is the correct contact information for the person(s) who can legally sign an easement needed by Allband Communications Cooperative.

If a person other than the member applicant is needed to sign an easement, please include their contact information below.

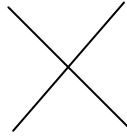
NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAYTIME PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	WORK PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	
E-MAIL	RELATION TO OWNER? (POWER OF ATTORNEY, TREASURER, ETC.)	



# Drop Location Map

Each member of the cooperative will have a thin fiber optic cable buried on their property and attached to their premise (house or business). To successfully bury our fiber optic cable on your property, each member is requested to draw a rough sketch of your property and any relevant utilities or physical objects that may interfere with the installation of the fiber optic cable. Our cable will either be installed along your driveway or across your property depending on the situation. Please carefully follow the directions below and include this map with you application for service. **Please refer to the attached demo map as an example to follow.**

1. The location of your premise is signified by an 'X'. Please draw your premise around the 'X' and include the garage if applicable.
2. Signify where the power meter on your premise and garage (if applicable) are located.
3. A line has been drawn to signify your road or trail. Please label the name of your road.
4. Draw your driveway that connects your premise to your road or trail.
5. Estimate the distance from the roads or trails to your house.
6. Draw relevant power, gas, septic and other buried or aerial components that may interfere with the fiber optic installation.
7. Fill out your name and address at the bottom of the page.
8. Once completed, return this document with your application.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Road or Trail ( )

NAME

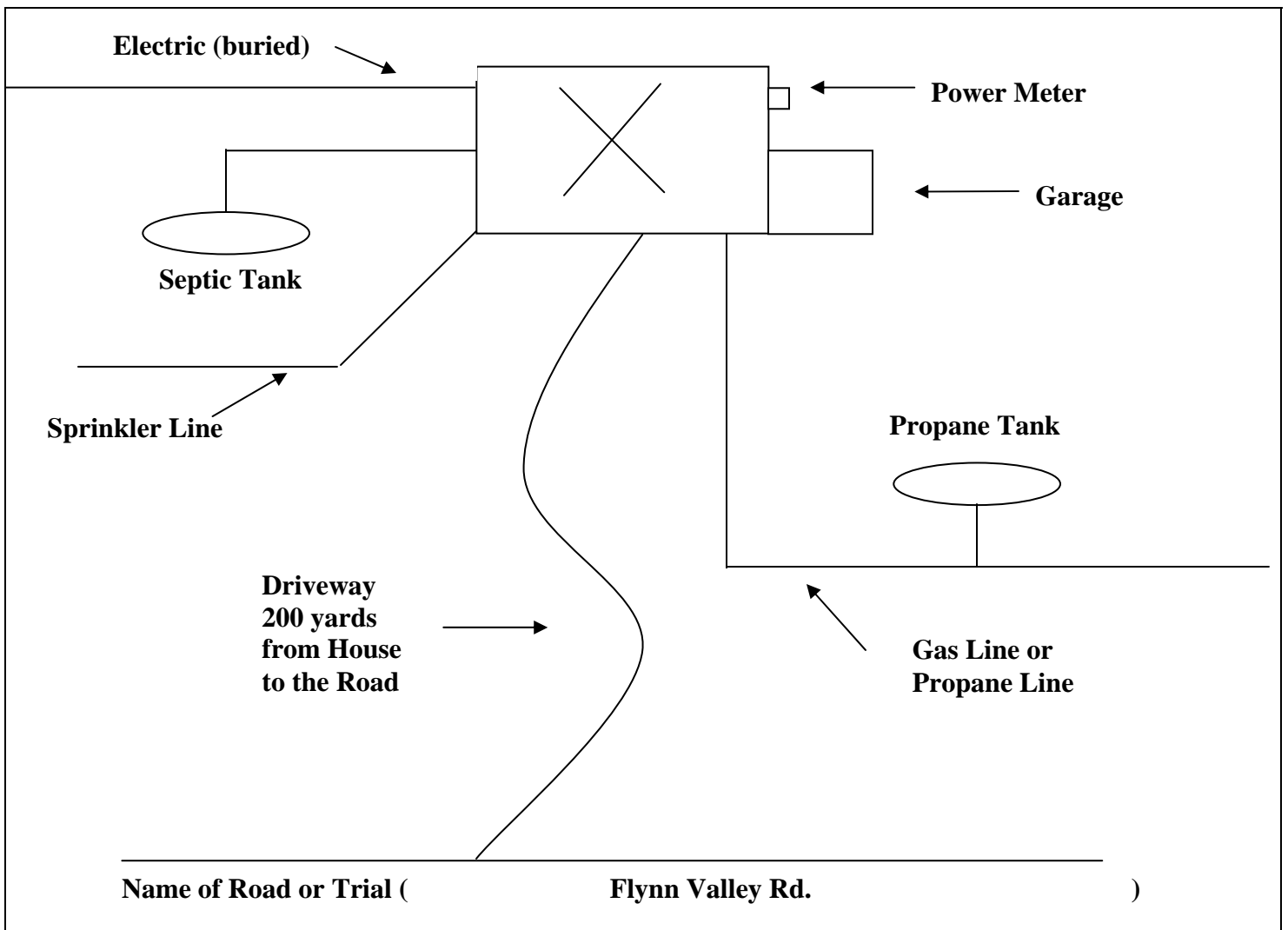
PROPERTY ADDRESS



# Drop Location Map

Each member of the cooperative will have a thin fiber optic cable buried on their property and attached to their premise (house or business). To successfully bury our fiber optic cable on your property, each member is requested to draw a rough sketch of your property and any relevant utilities or physical objects that may interfere with the installation of the fiber optic cable. Our cable will either be installed along your driveway or across your property depending on the situation. Please carefully follow the directions below and include this map with you application for service. **Please refer to the attached demo map as an example to follow.**

1. The location of your premise is signified by an 'X'. Please draw your premise around the 'X' and include the garage if connected to your house.
2. Signify where the power meter on your premise and garage (if applicable) are located.
3. A line has been drawn to signify your road or trail. Please label the name of your road.
4. Draw your driveway that connects your premise to your road or trail.
5. Estimate the distance from the roads or trails to your house.
6. Draw relevant power, gas, septic and other buried or aerial components that may interfere with the fiber optic installation.
7. Once completed, return this document with your application.





# Consumer Alert

## Lifeline and Link-up: Eligibility Requirements Have Been Expanded

The Michigan Public Service Commission urges qualifying low-income residents to apply for the Link-Up America and Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs. These programs make basic local telephone service more affordable for income-eligible families throughout Michigan. Those who qualify could receive discounts for monthly telephone bills and/or initial installation costs of telephone service.

### What are the benefits?

**Lifeline** provides discounts for basic local wireline telephone service to eligible low-income customers.\*

- Eligible low-income customers under age 65 can receive a minimum discount of \$8.25 per month (the current average discount is \$10.00 per month and varies depending on the provider).
- Eligible low-income customers 65 years of age or older can receive a discount of \$12.35 per month.

**Link-Up** reduces the installation charge for phone service by 50%, up to \$30, for telephone service for those customers meeting income eligibility guidelines. Customers can request a deferred payment schedule for the remaining installation charges.

The rate reductions for both Lifeline and Link-Up cannot be greater than the cost of the basic service.

\* Discount and reductions only apply to wireline telephone service.

### How do you apply?

All local wireline telephone service providers in Michigan are required to provide Link-Up and Lifeline. Contact your local telephone company to apply. The phone number and information on Lifeline and Link-Up can generally be found in the front of your telephone book. You may be asked to provide documentation to demonstrate your eligibility.

### Who is eligible?

To qualify for Link-Up and/or Lifeline, the customer's household income must be at or below the guidelines listed in the chart, or the customer must participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid,
- Food Stamps,
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI),
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8),
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP),
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, or
- The National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch

<u>150% of Poverty Guideline's Maximum Income</u>	
<u># of Household Members</u>	<u>Annual Income</u>
1	\$15,315
2	\$20,535
3	\$25,755
4	\$30,975
5	\$36,195
6	\$41,415
7	\$46,635
8	\$51,855
For each Additional Household Member, Add	\$5,220





# State/Federal Assistance Lifeline and/or Link Up Eligibility Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION		
NAME		
PROPERTY ADDRESS AT TELEPHONE SERVICE LOCATION		COUNTY
CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAYTIME PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	WORK PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	

As an applicant for Federal Lifeline and/or Link Up services, I certify under penalty of perjury that I am currently receiving assistance from (check all that applies):

- Medicaid Program
- Food Stamps Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program
- Federal Public Housing Association Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
- Head Start Programs (only those meeting its income-qualifying standards)
- National School Lunch Program (Free Lunch Program)
- Other State or Federal Assistance Programs

Please Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to notify Allband Communications Cooperative when I am no longer receiving the assistance I have indicated.  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to notify Allband Communications Cooperative when I am no longer receiving the assistance I have indicated.  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Signature



# Low Income Lifeline and/or Link Up Eligibility Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION		
NAME		
PROPERTY ADDRESS AT TELEPHONE SERVICE LOCATION		COUNTY
CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAYTIME PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	WORK PHONE (IF AVAILABLE)	

**Qualifying Income Levels:** Please refer to attached bulletin for qualifying income levels.

As an applicant for Federal Lifeline and/or Link Up Services, I certify under penalty of perjury that my household's combined income is at or below the figures in the chart above. I understand that the term "household" means all persons who occupy my housing unit, whether they are related to each other or not.

Number of individuals in my Household: \_\_\_\_\_ Combined Annual Income: \$\_\_\_\_\_

I have attached the following documentation covering at least three consecutive months:

- A previous year's state, federal or tribunal tax return
- A current income statement from an employer or paycheck stub
- A statement of benefits from the U.S. Social Security Administration
- A statement of benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- A retirement or pension statement of benefits
- An unemployment or worker's compensation statement of benefits
- A federal or tribal notice letter of participation in general assistance
- A divorce decree or child support document
- Another official document demonstrating proof of income

Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to notify Allband Communications Cooperative when I am no longer receiving the assistance I have indicated.  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to notify Allband Communications Cooperative when I am no longer receiving the assistance I have indicated.  
Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date