



NH BROADBAND IS COMING TO MEREDITH!

JUNE 2024

Hey Meredith, when summer's over don't worry, because NH Broadband will be there. That's right, starting Aug. 31, Co-op members in Meredith will be able to access faster, symmetrical upload and download speeds that only fiber-optic internet can deliver. So get ready to leave those old copper wires behind and start planning to upgrade your entire online experience with NH Broadband.

What's NH Broadband?

NH Broadband is a subsidiary of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC), the same member-owned business that's provided power to Meredith and dozens of other New Hampshire towns for the past 85 years. If you live in Meredith you've likely seen trucks and lineworkers hanging fiber-optic lines on utility poles throughout the town. Starting at the end of August and throughout the Fall, those lines will be delivering reliable, affordable internet service at speeds up to 2 Gig per second.

Why NH Broadband?

It's about offering business owners the tools to thrive. It's about access to healthcare. It's about limitless opportunities for knowledge and entertainment. And it's about being closer to the families, friends and communities to whom we belong.

The Co-op is bringing NH Broadband to you so you can "Live Free" of your old, copper cable and enjoy faster speeds, better reliability and everything else you already love about the Co-op.

"Everyone in Meredith is so excited that NH Broadband is coming. We're excited to see the Co-op putting up those fiber optic lines! Everyone is looking for a good internet provider through NH Broadband."

-Meredith resident Ann Sprague

SIGN UP NOW TO GET ON THE INSTALLATION LIST!

Service will be available in Meredith starting at the end of summer. Hundreds of NHEC members have already signed up! Make sure you're on the list for installations by going to www.nhbroadband.com and clicking 'Check Availability.'





UPS STORE DOESN'T SETTLE FOR SLOW INTERNET

PLYMOUTH – For households and businesses, the internet is, essentially, essential. That's why switching service providers is a chore that most of us dread, even if we're stuck with poor customer service, slow speeds and inconsistent fees.

Pat Hannigan, the owner of The UPS Store on Main Street, assessed his experience with his previous internet provider and made the switch to NH Broadband.

When it became available on Main Street last July, Hannigan soon realized that NH Broadband's fiber-optic service would allow him to easily operate 10 active devices in his store, including its two point-of-sale systems and all of the computers and phones, operating on three different Wi-Fi networks. Data is transmitted quickly and efficiently with the bandwidth and symmetrical upload/download speeds of NH Broadband's service.

"We needed more bandwidth and data transmission speed for our everyday tasks like sending e-mails," he said.

"Our day-to-day operations have vastly improved with fiber optic service, the broadband has been perfect and the bandwidth will be able to accommodate additional equipment as our store continues to grow," said Hannigan, who opted for the 1-Gig service to seamlessly handle the store's needs.



MIDLIFE CAREER CHANGE IS A NEW DIRECTION FOR NHEC LINEWORKER

PLYMOUTH – Brian Francis decided to change course. A 2002 graduate of Plymouth Regional High School, he'd spent most of his working life building custom homes in the area, but a desire to help his community led him to a new career in linework.

"I grew up in Plymouth so I like giving back to that community and I have kids that go to school here," said Brian, who was able to defray some of the cost of his line school training with a scholarship from the Co-op. He graduated last August with perfect timing: the Co-op was hiring.

While there are some similarities to construction work, a lot of things are very different when you're working on power lines. "The guys have been really good about helping me out and teaching me and bringing me along as I'm learning all the new skills and knowledge that you need to be a lineman," Brian said.

The demands of the work itself are a natural fit for Brian's abilities: resilient, hard-working and a good communicator.

"Being resilient is going to help you a lot dealing with just the weather and the adversity it brings along. Communication is very important now," he added, explaining how each job starts with a safety meeting that gives the crew time and space to make sure everyone is on the same page.

"I think that hard working and being positive kind of go hand in hand. When you're out on a storm and things are cold or wet or windy and it's kind of miserable, it helps to be a positive person and have a hard-working attitude the whole time," he said. "It helps everybody out when you can be that way."

IMPROVE COMFORT & EFFICIENCY



Get Started NOW!

It only takes a couple of clicks to see if your home is eligible for up to \$6,000 in energy efficiency incentives through the NHSaves® Home Energy Performance program.

In three easy steps, you'll be on your way to a more comfortable home that saves energy and money for years to come.

1. Check your home's eligibility:
<https://energyaudit.nhsaves.com>
2. If you qualify, a certified contractor will perform an energy audit and recommend improvements like air sealing and insulation.
3. If you go ahead with the work, NHEC will pay for up to 75% of the installed measures, or up to \$6,000.

On-Bill Financing

NHEC can help further with 0% On-Bill financing of your project co-pay (up to \$4,000 for up to 48 months). Contact NHEC for details:
solutions@nhec.com; or call (800) 698-2007.

WATTS HAPPENING?

Clearing the Way

NHEC is responsible for maintaining the “rights-of-way” where power lines are located. Trees and vegetation in close proximity to the electric system are the leading cause of power outages. To keep our electrical distribution system as safe and reliable as possible, we are continually maintaining the spaces occupied by our 5,500 miles of energized line. Learn more about our Vegetation Management programs and see a current list of project locations on our website: www.nhec.com/vegetation

NHEC Board Election Results

NHEC will announce the results of the 2024 Board of Directors Election during the 85th Annual Meeting of Members on Tuesday, June 18, 2024. Election results will be posted on the NHEC website immediately following the Annual Meeting.

SmartHub: Get It to Go!

Manage your NHEC account anywhere with the convenience of the SmartHub app for your mobile device. The SmartHub app is free and available for your iOS or Android device. With SmartHub, you can:

- View your hourly electric usage
- Report outages
- Get restoration updates
- Pay your bill



Scan to download
the SmartHub app



TICK SAFETY TIPS

It's that time of year again – tick season in New Hampshire. Don't let them keep you inside – a few safety tips can keep you safe.

- ✓ Wear light-colored clothing so that you can see ticks.
- ✓ Wear long sleeve shirts and pants tucked into socks or boots.
- ✓ Apply tick repellent to clothing, boots and outerwear in a well-ventilated area or outside in open air. Check manufacturer recommendations/safety warnings before using any bug repellent.
- ✓ Stay on designated trails.
- ✓ Check your entire family for ticks every few hours. If you find a tick, remove it asap.
- ✓ Check for ticks in hair, thighs, groin, and armpits.
- ✓ Use a slotted spoon to remove embedded ticks, pull up & pop out.
- ✓ DO NOT use kerosene, Vaseline, or other folk remedies.
- ✓ Watch for symptoms of tick-borne illnesses, which might include fever, chills, muscle aches, body aches, and/or a target-shaped rash. Seek medical attention immediately if you notice any of these symptoms.



SOUND THE ALARM!

Meredith event installed 50 smoke alarms

NHEC, the NHEC Foundation and the American Red Cross of Northern New England teamed up last month in Meredith to make 44 NHEC members safer. Volunteers installed 50 smoke alarms in 16 homes in need.

The event, part of the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign, was sponsored by a \$10,000 grant from the NHEC Foundation, which pools donations from NHEC members to support local nonprofits. Financial support from the NHEC Foundation has helped install smoke alarms in the homes of nearly 500 families over the past six years.

The NHEC Foundation is supported entirely by the generosity of NHEC members who participate in the Round Up Program. Enroll in Round Up and we'll round your monthly electric bill up to the nearest dollar and donate the spare change to the NHEC Foundation. The average contribution is just 50 cents a month and more than 40,000 members are doing it!

Learn More and Round Up Here:

www.nhec.com/round-up-program