

IN THE LOOP

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

gardonville cooperative telephone association

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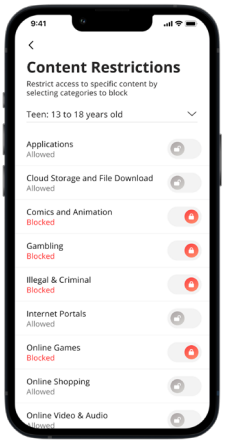
WiFi with Built-in Parental Controls

The internet can be a scary place. Keep your kids safe online with parental controls built right into the CommandIQ app—free when you subscribe to Gardonville Internet with Whole Home WiFi.

Why Parents Love It

- Set screen time limits so devices go offline at bedtime or homework time.
- Filter inappropriate content to keep kids safe while they browse.
- Pause the internet instantly for family dinners or when it's time to unplug.
- Create profiles for each child and manage all their devices in one place.
- See exactly which devices are connected to your network at any time.

The best part? You don't need to be tech-savvy. Everything is controlled through an easy-to-use app on your phone. That means more peace of mind for parents and a safer, healthier online experience for kids.



Whole Home WiFi isn't just about stronger connections; it's about giving families the tools to stay connected in the ways that matter most.

Learn about other cool features at: *www.gctel.com/whole*-home-wifi

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www.gctel.com

Gardonville is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Community Profile

More Than a Shooting Range: Alexandria Shooting Park

What started as a partnership between a group of avid outdoorsmen has grown into a destination for shooters from across the United States.

Four years ago, Tyler Notch, Garrett Streitz, Steve Gould, Zach Johnson, and Tom Townsend purchased Alexandria Shooting Park, a facility that has been part of the area for roughly 50 years. Since taking over, the group has continued to invest in and grow the park, adding new opportunities for both experienced shooters and those just getting started.

The park offers archery, trap, skeet, five stand and sporting clays, including two 30-station walking sporting clays courses. Shooters can purchase a membership or simply come out and shoot, making the facility accessible to the general public. Memberships offer additional benefits, including access to different shooting levels and discounts on ammunition and other purchases.

While plenty happens at the park throughout the year, some of its biggest events bring thousands of people to the Alexandria area. Alexandria Shooting Park hosts the USA Clay Target League's High School Trap Shooting Championships, welcoming approximately 80,000 visitors over the course of the nine-day event. Around one million clay targets are thrown during the competition, with food trucks, vendors and hundreds of schools taking part.

The park also hosts the Minnesota State 4-H Shooting Sports and Wildlife Invitational, which brings approximately 1,200 youth to the area, along with events for the Minnesota Trapshooting Association, Realy for Life and collegiate Athletic associations.

For those traveling to compete or simply spend a few days enjoying the park, an on-site RV park offers quiet campsites with water and electric hookups, along with showers and laundry facilities.

Alexandria Shooting Park also offers shooting instruction and permit-to-carry classes, providing opportunities for people at a variety of experience levels.

Whether you're an experienced competitive shooter, interested in trying sporting clays for the first time or simply looking for a new outdoor activity, Alexandria Shooting Park has built a facility designed to welcome shooters from both near and far.





www.facebook.com/shootasp | www.shootasp.com

2027 Phone Book Info

List Your Business

Work has begun on the 2027 Vikingland Regional Directory. Pinnacle Publishing will serve as Gardonville's publisher. Pinnacle Publishing representatives will be contacting area business customers regarding Yellow Page listings in the following months.

If you have not been contacted in prior years regarding your business listing, please call our office and we will ensure a sales representative contacts you.

Check Your Listing

If you have telephone service with Gardonville, please check your current listing in the Vikingland Regional Directory. If you would like to make any changes, please call our office before October 9, 2026.

Use our Directory

Accuracy cannot be ensured on listings in any of the directories you may receive from other companies. However, our directory has been manually proofed in-house to ensure accuracy of our members' information. For this reason, we encourage you to use the Vikingland Regional Directory.

List Your Cell

If you have a landline number with us, you have the option to list your cell phone number in our directory for just $1.00 a month. Call (320) 834-5151 to get in our 2027 edition of the Vikingland Regional Directory.



More than Internet

Making Memories all Summer Long

It was a busy summer at Gardonville, and we wouldn't have had it any other way! From community events and parades to giveaways and a car show right in our own parking lot, we had plenty of opportunities to get out and connect with the communities we serve.

Our Community Outdoor WiFi was put to good use this summer. We helped keep visitors connected at Art in the Park in Alexandria, where thousands gathered to enjoy local artists, food trucks and live entertainment. We also provided WiFi at the Douglas County Fair, where our team spent a few days visiting with the community, giving away prizes, sharing special discounts and, of course, enjoying our share of fair food.

We also provided WiFi at Youth Outdoor Activity Day, a free event that gives kids the chance to try more than 45 hands-on outdoor activities.

You may have spotted the Gardonville crew on the parade route, too! We participated in parades in Evansville, Millerville, Garfield and Brandon. We also sponsored several community golf scrambles supporting great causes, including scholarships for Alexandria Technical & Community College, United Way and our local Chamber of Commerce.

Baseball fans got in on the summer fun as well. Through Facebook contests, we gave away 76 Minnesota Twins tickets!

And we couldn't talk about summer without mentioning the Brandon Car Show. More than 70 cars filled our parking lot for an evening of food trucks, music from Blonde and the Bohunk and plenty of time spent visiting with friends and neighbors.

It was a full summer, and we're grateful for every opportunity to be part of the communities we call home.













$100 for Referring Your Friends

Show your friends and neighbors some love with this special offer! Refer them to one of our services (internet, phone or TV) and you each get a $100 accout credit!

To participate, simply have your friend mention your name when signing up for service. Ask a customer care representative for details.

NFL RedZone

If you're a die-hard fan and want to see every touchdown, interception and fumble, then the NFL RedZone package is definitely for you. It's the "red meat" for NFL fans. Call or text our office at (320) 524-2211 to get it added to your Stream TV service for just $59.95 for the NFL season.

How Are We Doing?

Your feedback means the world to us! Scan the QR code to leave us a review on Google or go to: facebook.com/gardonville/reviews

If you are experiencing issues or aren't satisfied with your service, please call our 24x7 Help Desk line at (320) 834-5155.

Financial Assistance

September is Lifeline Awareness Month, making it a great time to see if you or someone you know may qualify. Eligibility is based on household income or participation in certain programs, including SNAP, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance and the Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit.

Lifeline is a federal program that offers a monthly benefit of up to $9.25 toward qualifying internet and phone services for eligible subscribers. Please contact our office for more information.

Brain Buster

How many Twins tickets did we give away to our customers through Facebook giveaways this summer?

Answer

Name - Please Print

July/Aug Brain Buster

What is our newest product called that protects your devices from viruses, ransomware and blocks harmful sites?

Answer: DeviceShield

Last month's winner is Jim Anderson. Stop in at either our Alexandria or Brandon office to get your goody bag, Jim!

Credit & Disconnect Guidelines

Gardonville Cooperative Telephone Association values our subscribers. Your business is important to us. As with any business, NSF checks and non-payment accounts are difficult situations and must be carefully monitored so all subscribers are treated fairly and consistently. Gardonville has adopted the following guidelines which may be modified as necessary to comply with Minnesota Public Utilities Commission and/or public law:

Monthly bills are mailed each month and are due by the 15th of the month. Payment in full is expected in our business office by the due date each and every month.

A deposit is required from any subscriber who has not established satisfactory credit/payment history with a utility company in the last six months. The deposit is held until the subscriber has established a satisfactory credit/payment history with Gardonville, at which time the deposit is applied as a credit to the subscribers' account with interest.

Satisfactory credit/payment history is defined as one year of consistent and complete monthly payments.

If payment has not been received, a **FINAL NOTICE** message will be printed on the bill statement advising the subscriber that unless payment in full is received on the past due balance or other suitable arrangement(s) are made with our office before the time of disconnection; the subscriber's services will all be subject to disconnection. This will be the only notice given before disconnection of some or all services.

Gardonville is willing to work with our subscribers to establish suitable payment arrangements due to an emergency or those who cannot pay in full. Suitable payment arrangements are not intended to exceed a limited time period or be allowed more than two times in a calendar year. The account will become subject to disconnection if the scheduled payments are not received.

Disconnection may also occur when a subscriber issues a NSF check. The subscriber will be mailed a notice of receipt of the NSF check. The subscriber will have five business days to cover the check and NSF check charge with cash. If payment has not been received, the subscriber's account will be subject to disconnection.

Disconnection will not occur on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, but will occur on the next business day.

Once service is disconnected, payment in full along with reconnect and late fees must be paid before service is reconnected.

If the disconnected non-pay account has not been reconnected or paid after ten days, it becomes a permanent disconnect, removing the telephone number from the directory, services from locations, closing the account and turning the bill over to a collection agency.

If the subscriber wishes to reconnect after ten days, a new application must be completed, the old bill paid in full along with the service charges for a new subscriber and a deposit before service will be reinstated.

Service charges, as listed in the Cooperative's tariff and approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, are assessed a reconnection fee for each service and/or upon the receipt of a NSF check.

Subscribers must have established a satisfactory credit/payment history before additional services or features are provided.