



# The **BLUE LIGHTNING** Connection

Bringing you more than a phone and Internet connection

Volume 9 - Issue 2

## IN THIS ISSUE:

### COVER

What's the Difference  
Between Mbps vs Gbps?

### PAGE 2

Annual Meeting Recap

### PAGE 3

Meet the Team!

2022 Directory Contest Winner!

Blue Lightning Business Center

### BACK

Fix Your Speed Need!

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

# MBPS GBPS



LOADING...

When it comes to using the Internet, phrases such as, “Wow, that was fast” or “Sorry, it’s taking forever to load” often expresses how we feel about the speed. It can be difficult to distinguish between Internet speed and data usage, but understanding the difference can help you understand what kind of Internet package is a right fit for you. A task such as scrolling through social media doesn’t require as much bandwidth as downloading a large file. Mbps and Gbps often goes misunderstood when it comes to Internet speed.

So, how can you distinguish between a megabit and a gigabit? In terms of speed, is a gigabit faster? A simple way to compare the difference between the two is a dollar and a hundred cents. A gigabit of Internet speed is 1,000 megabits per second. Saying and writing 10 Gbps is just more efficient than 10,000 Mbps, for example. The speed of a gigabit connection is twice that of a 500 Mbps connection.

There are several compelling reasons to purchase the fastest Internet accessible, including reduced download times and improved video streaming quality. If you’re in a household with minimal devices and maybe stream one device at a time, having a gigabit connection isn’t necessary. Things such as checking email, online shopping, and scrolling through socials won’t have a significant difference in speed because whether you have 100 Mbps or a 1 Gbps all those tasks still only use the same amount of Mbps to function.

Data flows at the same speed regardless of what kind of connection you have. Internet speed is measured in megabits per second (Mbps) or gigabits per second (Gbps). The amount of data transferred through the connection in any given second is what determines Internet speed. The faster you can download a file, the greater the megabits per second. In simpler terms, the more Mbps you have the more things you can do simultaneously with your Internet connection.

# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

*Thank you to all that were able to join us on March 12th for our Annual Meeting. 2021 was a great year for Blue Lightning. Here are some of the highlights we wanted to share.*

## SERVICE & STATISTICS

### TELEPHONE • ACCESS LINES SAW 6% INCREASE IN 2021

Blue Lightning, formerly Wiggins Telephone, has been providing local telephone service as an independent phone cooperative since 1951. While recent years have brought new and innovative developments in technology, the benefits of having a landline are alive and well.

**With our affordable phone service, you can count on:**

- Accessibility
- Low Cost
- Comfort
- Security
- Reliability
- Capital Credits Benefits



### BROADBAND • CUSTOMER BASE GREW BY 9% LAST YEAR

Blue Lightning Broadband was launched in 2008, providing Internet services over a state-of-the-art fiber optic network. This has positioned the cooperative for several successful growth opportunities over the last decade:

*Fastest Internet provider in Wiggins, CO and surrounding areas*

*Among the fastest providers in the entire state of Colorado*

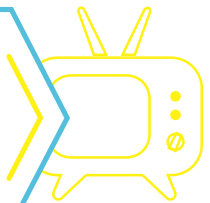
*The only Internet provider in the area to provide Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) experience*

*As of 2016, Blue Lightning's network is Gig-Certified, meaning we're capable of download speeds up to 1 GIG (1000 mbps)*



### STREAMING TV

Get the best in local programming! Blue Lightning has partnered with Streaming TV Genius to help provide you the resources for viewing your favorite local programs. Although this is not a Blue Lightning service, we continue to work to provide you the best options to fit your unique needs.



### IT & TECH SERVICES • INSTALLED 452 NEW CALIX ROUTERS IN 2021

Blue Lightning is more than just great phone and Internet. We like to think of ourselves as a one-stop shop for all things IT. We teach computer classes which provide advice and support for any level of user and our IT staff can help you:

*Purchase a new PC*

*Run diagnostics on and repair your current PC*

*Perform an online back-up*

*Install new software*

Additionally, Blue Lightning has recently deployed new equipment to create a better network experience and quality Wi-Fi connectivity for our users. Paired with our unique "Blue Lightning Connectivity Solutions", our customers can be fully supported in their use of our network.



# MEET THE TEAM AT BLUE LIGHTNING!



*We can't thank each of them enough for all they do for our communities and customers.*

## **FRONT ROW:**

Kevin Harris, Brandy Ishida, Mary Pachek, Andrea Vigil, Cody Bruntz, Seth Dawson

## **BACK ROW:**

Allen Scott, Roger Peck, Dana Sharp, Casey Quint, Kelby Lutter

*Not pictured:  
Danea Bender, Terry Hendrickson*

## CONGRATS TO THE 2022 DIRECTORY CONTEST WINNER!



Karla Harris from Wiggins is pictured with the winning cover photo!

## *Don't Forget the* BLUE LIGHTNING **BUSINESS CENTER**

Is your computer acting up? Or maybe your printer is simply out of ink? The Blue Lightning Business Center is here to assist you! The Business Center, located in the front office/reception area, features workstations where you have access to a desktop computer with the fastest Blue Lightning speeds.

Each computer is equipped with Microsoft Office software and assistance is available if you need to print, copy, or fax documents. Computer use, faxing, and the Wi-Fi connection are free of cost, while printing and copying are available for a small fee.

Not a Blue Lightning member yet? No problem! The Business Center is open to the public for all to use. When you stop by, let us offer you a demonstration of our Internet and Video services so you can see how things run and get more insight into how rewarding it is to be a part of the Blue Lightning cooperative.

We, as a cooperative, always strive to put our community first. The Blue Lightning Business Center does just that; it's one of Blue Lightning's many ways of showing our support! Even if you're not a member, stop by the Blue Lightning Business Center and let us know how we can assist you today!



# BLUE LIGHTNING

ESTABLISHED 1951

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WIGGINS, CO  
PERMIT NO. 34

## OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

## CONTACT US

Ph: 970-483-7343  
Fax: 970-483-7713

## BLUE LIGHTNING SUPPORT

Available 24/7  
(970) 483-TECH (8324) or  
"777#" from your home phone

## EMAIL US

customersupport@wigginstel.com

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/wtbluelightning](http://www.facebook.com/wtbluelightning)

**Postal Customer  
Weldona, CO 80653**



Experience Internet *in the fast lane with*  
**Blue Lightning today!**

**FIX YOUR SPEED NEED!**

**SCAN TO GET STARTED**

[www.GetBlueLightning.com](http://www.GetBlueLightning.com) • (970) 483-7343  
414 Main St., P.O. Box 690 • Wiggins, CO 80654

