



IMPORTANT – Saline County Broadband Internet Access

Description

This survey is over. Thank you for your participation.

~~Note: There is a very important broadband survey for Saline County residents at the bottom of this page.~~

By Keith Keck, June 17, 2020

Email from Keith Keck, Saline County Quorum Court Judge

Below is information regarding efforts to recruit another internet service provider for the Saline County portion of HSV. For the last six months, the POA and Saline County officials have worked this issue hard to reach the point of an ISP moving forward to survey the potential response for new broadband internet access across all of Saline County.

For HSV, this survey initiative is targeted for the unserved/underserved neighborhoods of HSV, like the northern section of Diamante, San Augustin, Binefar, Olmedo and Ladera.

Email to Keck from Saline County Judge Jeff Arey

If you are receiving this email, it is because you are influential in Saline County, and I am asking for your help with something that I believe is important to our community. Technology is impacting every part of our lives in a rapidly changing world, from where and how we conduct work, to whether or not we thrive economically and socially. Technology and broadband can when available, improve and enhance the way we work and live. Having access to affordable and abundant broadband is quickly becoming the most critical infrastructure of our time, just like electricity, transportation, and roadways were early last century.

Last year Governor Hutchinson launched Arkansas Rural Connect (ARC) grant program designed to expand the broadband footprint in rural Arkansas communities. The ARC program will distribute at least \$4.7 million in grants to partnerships between local governments and internet service providers. These grants will help close the business case to provide 25/3 Mbps broadband to areas that lack a reliable, high-speed connection. The Governor has pledged that more funds in the future will be coming.

Over the last few months, Saline County has been in discussions with internet service providers in hopes of finding a willing partner to help provide broadband to areas that lack that reliable, high-speed connection. One of those providers, [Aristotle Unified Communication](#) (AUC) is a broadband internet service and voice-over IP Phone system provider with headquarters in Little Rock. AUC currently serves the Central Arkansas Area, including the metropolitan area of Little Rock and surrounding communities. AUC is considering the expansion of its broadband network to include more communities in Saline County. [\[Click here to visit the AUC website.\]](#)

Would you please assist us by helping push out to the public a new market survey? I have prepared a brief narrative (See below) that includes the link to the survey that people can fill out online. If you could share this in an email blast, social media post, newspaper article, website posting, or any means that you have, it would be helpful. Please call me with any questions, and thank you in advance for your help.

Jeff Arey

Saline County Judge

200 North Main Street, Suite 117

Benton, Arkansas 72015

[Saline County is asking for your help in locating underserved broadband areas. Would you please assist by taking a brief moment to respond to this survey at the bottom of this page?](#)

Saline County Government and Aristotle Unified Communications are working together in finding opportunities to expand broadband access in Saline County. Many parts of the County are underserved when it comes to having sufficient broadband internet access. Saline County is asking for your help in locating underserved areas. Would you please assist by taking a brief moment to respond

to the following survey? By filling out this survey, you are not committing to purchasing any services. Personal information will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed. Click on the link below to access the survey. We appreciate your help!

~~Click here to take the survey.~~

By Keith Keck, June 17, 2020

Editor's note: Thank you for reading. [Click here to go to the home page to bookmark this website so you don't miss any updates.](#)

[Click here to visit Hot Springs Village PEOPLE private Facebook Group.](#)

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1. HSV News

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