

**Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners**  
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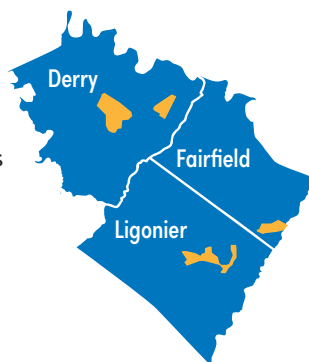
## BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### About the Program

The Westmoreland Broadband Program was developed to identify Internet gap areas and work with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to begin deploying infrastructure to reach communities in need of broadband.

### Early Action Projects (EAPs)

With currently available funds, a process was developed to determine which areas of greatest need would be strong EAPs to complete. Study results found that areas within Derry, Fairfield, and Ligonier Townships represented the greatest need and were prioritized to bring much-needed support to residents and businesses.



### Verizon Partnership with Westmoreland County

Verizon will be providing unserved residents and businesses within the EAP areas with the infrastructure to connect to high-speed fiber-optic broadband. Verizon will expand broadband services to four areas within Derry, Fairfield, and Ligonier Townships.



### What's Happening Now

It will take Verizon approximately 12 months to build the new fiber-optic infrastructure. During this time, Verizon engineers design a plan for the EAPs, gain permits from private and government entities, and secure supplies that will allow construction crews to install the necessary build-out to bring faster and more reliable Internet access to residents and businesses. Approximately 30 miles of fiber will be deployed throughout the EAP areas.

### What About Other Areas in the County Without Internet?

The next step is to identify ISPs for the remaining Connectivity Opportunity Areas (COAs) through a competitive bid process and other grant opportunities. COAs are locations with poor or no broadband connectivity that are prioritized for access to new services.

COAs are locations that have previously been identified through the [Westmoreland Broadband Feasibility Study](#) as having poor or no broadband connectivity. These locations will be prioritized for future expansion projects. To find out if your address is located in a COA, use the interactive new service area map on the program website at [westmorelandbroadband.org/new-service-areas](https://westmorelandbroadband.org/new-service-areas).





### VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

In the rights-of-way for communication lines, crews may be trimming trees and clearing ground vegetation to create access to existing lines or future aerial or underground lines.



### NEW POLES

New poles may be constructed in rights-of-way where existing poles are inadequate or do not exist to carry future lines.



### INSTALLATION TEAMS

New high-speed fiber lines will be installed following one or more of the preparatory activities listed above. Residents may see the installation teams accessing rights-of-way throughout the installation and testing phases of work. Work typically happens during normal business hours. However, work may occur during night and weekends as needed.



### IDENTIFICATION AND ACCESS

Verizon employees and contractors may need access to your gated property or other hard to access areas. For the protection of all parties, workers will be clearly badged and wearing appropriate personal protective equipment.



### UNDERGROUND CABLES

In areas where cables will be buried, residents may witness digging and associated soil disturbance. If digging occurs during winter, restoration will take place in the spring/summer as weather permits. Temporary patches such as cold patches may be used on asphalt roads and then permanently repaired when weather permits, as well. Restorations will be in kind.



### ROAD CUTTING

There may be the need to open cut a road to place new cables. This process will be managed safely and with minimum delays to road traffic.



### TRAFFIC SAFETY

Drivers may see flaggers in work zones to ensure the safety of work crews. Any traffic delays should be short and temporary.

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## Questions?

Contact us at [feedback@westmorelandbroadband.org](mailto:feedback@westmorelandbroadband.org) or by calling 724-495-4350. Visit [WestmorelandBroadband.org](http://WestmorelandBroadband.org) for more information about the program and to sign up to receive project news and updates.

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