



December 2019

News & Updates

ICN's 2019 Year in Review

2019 was an active year in enhancing the fiber optic Network. The Network is approximately 3,300 miles of state-owned fiber reaching at least one point of presence in each county. We are seeing greater broadband demands from our users. Those changing needs continue to increase the demand for greater levels of broadband. As we look towards the future, we are nearing the completion of our third major upgrade. This enhancement will further the standing goals of:

- Improving network security and redundancy.
- Meeting the broadband demands of our users.
- Providing flexible solutions and quality services.

As we close out 2019 we want to thank our customers for trusting us with their broadband needs. Take a moment to read about five Network enhancement projects from 2019.

[5 Network enhancement projects from 2019.](#)

Five Ways to Prevent Cybercrime

Practicing good security habits at the office and at home can help employees continue to think about how to keep their information safe when online. As cyberattacks grow in frequency and sophistication, here are five ways to protect your data.

- Enable Multi-Factor Authentication
- Protect Your Devices
- Stay Protected While Connected
- Be Aware of App Permissions
- Beware of What You Share

[Read 5 Tips to Prevent Cybercrime](#)

FY 2019 Annual Report Released

Our annual report was released on November 27. It outlines the activities from July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019. Throughout the report readers will find information explaining how Internet, voice, and security services continue to provide value to our authorized users.

[ICN Annual Report](#)

Girls Go CyberStart - Registration Open

Girls Go CyberStart is a free online, cybersecurity skills program designed to educate and inspire high school girls to discover the opportunities and rewards offered by a career in cybersecurity.

- **Registration:** Girls Go CyberStart registration begins Dec 2, 2019.
- **CyberStart Assess:** CyberStart Assess opens January 13, 2020.
- **CyberStart Game:** CyberStart Game begins on February 10, 2020.
- **CyberStart Compete:** CyberStart Compete runs April 23-24, 2020.

For more information visit girlsgocyberstart.org.

Broadband News

[Yet another school district hit by ransomware, this time in Illinois](#)

[2020: A look back at the decade in tech from Alexa to Xbox](#)

[6 ways the E-rate supports digital and mobile learning](#)

[How the USDA is improving rural broadband development through its reconnect program](#)

[Zoom and Telehealth: How the Latest Telehealth Platforms Are Changing Medicine](#)

[Innovating for Public Safety: Tech to Protect Miami](#)

[Filling the cybersecurity workforce gap is education's responsibility](#)

[Three Approaches to Setting Cyber Security Budgets](#)

[\\$120K for dorm Wi-Fi upgrades? College CIO does it himself instead](#)

[USDA invests \\$7.2 million in rural broadband for Iowa and South Dakota families](#)

[The internet is 50 years old. Will we survive the next 50 years?](#)

[E-Learning Days Become Snow Day Alternative](#)

[ReConnect Loan and Grant Program](#)

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