

# SMU CONNECT

SPENCER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

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**Amanda Gloyd**

Marketing & Community Relations Manager

We at SMU are gearing up for the winter months ahead. We will be broadcasting many Spencer Community School varsity sporting events as well as concerts live on The Spencer Channel 3 and the Channel 3 Webcast. Be sure to tune in! Also, be sure to thank the many sponsors who have helped bring this coverage to the community of Spencer.

When thinking of the upcoming holiday season, if you are looking for the perfect gift, a gift card from the Spencer Chamber can be used here at SMU for payment on utility services.

We are also continuing to work on television retransmission negotiations for many of the broadcast channels. We will be sure to pass along any updates when they are completed.

## Lifeline and Toll Blocking

Spencer Municipal Utilities (SMU) provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates as of September 1, 2023:

Single Party Residence Service : \$15.00/month

Single Party Business Service: \$28.00/month

Residential Internet 250Mb/250Mb: \$65.00/month

### Local residence and business phone service include:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Spencer Municipal Communications Utilities participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or qualifying broadband service per household\* more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Monthly discounts up to \$9.25 are available to qualifying customers.

### To be eligible for Lifeline you must be enrolled in one or more of the following assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Food Stamps)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefit Programs
- Income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty guidelines

Customers may apply for discounts on-line at [www.getinternet.gov](http://www.getinternet.gov) or by contacting Spencer Municipal Utilities at 712-580-5800. Lifeline service is not transferable. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain Lifeline service can be fined, imprisoned or barred from the program.

*\* A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.*

The basic services described above are offered in SMU's service area.

# Project Share

**P**roject Share is a program Spencer Municipal Utilities has in place to help those in need with their wintertime energy bills. If you have not signed up to contribute, there are several easy ways to participate with a one-time gift, a monthly gift or by rounding up on your SMU bill. The money collected is distributed to those in need right here in Spencer through Upper Des Moines Opportunity. If you would like to participate, fill out the form or find a copy of the form online at [www.smunet.net](http://www.smunet.net).

## Project \$hare

**Project Share** is a plan created by your municipal utility to assist needy households in paying their wintertime energy bills.

You can help by adding a regular contribution to your monthly utility and/or communication payment, or by making a direct donation to **Project Share**. These funds will then be distributed to neighbors in need for wintertime energy costs.

Those qualifying for help will be carefully identified by an area social service agency. A local committee will oversee **Project Share** to guarantee all contributions will be handled equitably and efficiently.

So please, add to your utility or communication payment each month **Project Share**. It's a simple way to share some warmth with those who need it. Just fill out the form below and return it to Spencer Municipal Utilities.



I would like to help a neighbor in need with a tax-deductible contribution to **Project Share**!

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Utility acct # \_\_\_\_\_

Communication acct # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month to Project Share. I understand this amount will be billed through my account (number(s) provided above).

☐ I have enclosed a \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation to Project Share.

☐ I would like the amount I am billed each month rounded up to the next whole dollar and contributed to Project Share through my account (number(s) provided above).



# New Electric Meters

**W**e are preparing to start installing new residential and commercial electric meters with advanced meters to improve services. Many meters are located outside, and local SMU staff will be replacing the meters at no charge to customers. For more information on the project, visit our website at: <https://smunet.net/electric/advanced-metering-infrastructure/>.





**EXPLORING YOUR**  
*Need for Speed?*

**YOU'LL ENJOY THE BOOST OF AN INTERNET UPGRADE!**

Going faster can be so much fun, whether you're on a sled or on your laptop. It's exhilarating to move quickly from place to place and experience more of the world in less time.

You can capture that feeling by upgrading to one of our higher-speed internet plans. We offer speeds up to 1 Gig — sure to delight everyone in your family with the enhanced internet performance for streaming, gaming, and more.

**GET MOVING AND CALL 712-580-5800 TO SIGN UP**

Service availability and internet speed will depend on location. Certain restrictions apply. Contact us for details.



Spencer Municipal Utilities  
520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1  
Spencer, IA 51301  
p: 712.580.5800 • [www.smunet.net](http://www.smunet.net)

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