

First a summary

The Internet is in decline – it needs rewilding

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/article/2024/may/04/the-internet-is-in-decline-it-needs-rewilding>

Then the full article

We Need To Rewild The Internet

<https://www.noemamag.com/we-need-to-rewild-the-internet/>

The Governor's Task Force believes that all Wisconsinites should have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy, and economy. Broadband access is an essential catalyst for economic development, rural prosperity, educational opportunities, access to essential services, community health, entertainment, agriculture, quality of life, aging in place, and so much more across Wisconsin. Access alone will not meet our goals; internet adoption, digital literacy, and affordability are key components of equitable and sustainable access. Solving Wisconsin's broadband challenges calls for a multifaceted strategic approach, with input from a variety of stakeholders.

Utopia Fiber is \$30/mo. Fourteen competitive ISP's.

Broadband adds on average \$2000 per year/month of income per subscriber

In Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, there are approximately 530 miles of county roads.

Overall Estimate: The cost to lay fiber optic cable can range from approximately \$20,000 to \$70,000 per mile, depending on the specifics of the installation.

Aerial \$20k to \$30k \$10,600,000 to \$15,900,000

Underground \$40k to \$70k \$21,200,000 to \$37,100,000

### **A Once-in-a-Generation Investment**

This is our generation's big moment to close the digital divide and equip those most impacted by it with the tools they need to thrive in the modern digital economy.