

# Lincoln County BBC Registration Survey

Updated 11/08/21

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**Please describe how your home or business **Internet** connection supports or hinders your online world.**

1. Since I have access to broadband at home through ITC, I feel our home internet is very good. However, we do own business property in Ivanhoe, MN and that broadband has been very archaic and cumbersome for years. We had a choice between Frontier telephone and Mediacom. We used both at different times and it was extremely frustrating because of speed and access. Horrible!!
2. I live in Hendricks, and we use ITC as our internet service provider. We have had a great experience with ITC as far as speed and reliability go. My business is located in Ivanhoe. We have not been so lucky. We have tried multiple internet service providers over the years, and have settled with one who provides unreliable internet, mediocre customer service and constant outages. Our business relies heavily on the internet. Our phones are internet based, our server for our entire data base must have internet to function, and while there are things we can do when the internet is down, it's a dominating factor for our everyday functionality and customer service.
3. x
4. Not fast enough to compete in the business atmosphere
5. Slow speed causes guests at the resort to be unhappy with their stay.
6. x
7. My entire job requires me to have internet. At home I need internet for my children to do their homework.
8. x
9. it helps me gather tons of information needed to write many of my articles or columns.
10. x
11. Our business exists in a fast-paced environment that has weekly deadlines. We need a dependable and fast internet connection.
12. We have service through our Regional Service Cooperative and we are happy with it. Many of our homes in the area depend on many different companies to provide service and it often depends on the day.
13. Connectivity to the office to be able to work from home during inclement weather
14. I just moved back to my hometown area after 15 years because of this great new internet service!
15. We are lucky to have broadband at our home. There are those in Lincoln County that are still hindered and my interest is more to improve their availability.

16. Now days you need up to the minute information. Also our tv is from the internet so needs to be fast. a lot of business is done online.
17. With ITC fiber optics, it makes it possible for me to work at home, to connect my offices in Minneota and Hendricks via VPN, to utilize VOIP phones at my offices and at my home, to attend virtual meetings and court hearings, and when not working, to stream content via netflix, amazon etc.
18. Internet is crucial to my job at the Chamber. High speed is necessary to make the most of my busy day. We download all our software updates thru the internet to remain secure and current. Communication thru internet is key for reaching my clients, vendors and businesses in the area.
19. x
20. I need a steady internet connection/wireless reception to do my job as a journalist.
21. ITC interest
22. Our current carrier frequently becomes unavailable
23. We are currently very satisfied with out home internet connection as provided by ITC
24. We have found that Internet Connectivity is paramount to our families. We never know when we may have to return to Hybrid or Distance Learning due to the pandemic. Many families needed Hot Spots or better Internet connectivity.
25. Our Internet provider is Mediacom and their service is not the greatest. The have frequent reductions in speed that bog down our work system. At times it is difficult to maintain Zoom meetings and other on-line live platforms
26. ITC has just finished it's fiber rollout in rural LC
27. I work from home periodically and there are many interruption to the service at times, which effects my productivity.
28. Our provider in Lyon County is sufficient currently.
29. Our internet connection enabled me (Rusty) to teach high school chemistry from home during spring 2020 when Watertown schools were online only. The internet also allows us a ready connection with our family, church, civic involvement, and other outside interests.
30. Slow download and upload times, bad service from Frontier
- 31.
32. The kids could continue school; Allows me to send work documents to home bound or quarantined individuals safely; I can do my banking and deposits online avoiding extra bank fee charges; I can contact my medical doctor online; I can keep in touch with family members outside of my household: There is no part of my life untouched by connectivity including work, health, family
33. A lot
- 34.

35. Work with retired senior volunteers, any volunteers, respite care, food shelves, NAPS programs, schools, community clubs, foundations, museums, educate seniors on variety of programs.
36. At home we use the internet to stream video, communicate with our kids, and shop online. At work it is a vital part of communicating with our main office from my remote office
37. Without quality internet, student learning suffers. Many of our students regularly access the internet for learning opportunities both at school and at home. From the business side of school, internet is a necessary tool in marketing the school, reaching out to parents and reaching the community.
38. Slowness and interruptions hinders productivity.
39. Having a good internet connection is vital for all households and business.
40. WE keep up with local and world news, with friends, with business....we buy and sell over the internet with regularity
41. My home usage is not really hindered for personal use. However, I volunteer to upload weekly worship service videos for my church in Hendricks and improved upload speeds would be helpful.

**Please share your thoughts on how Lincoln County is positioned to provide the high-quality workforce.**

1. Ivanhoe is the county seat of Lincoln County. In order to best serve citizens of the entire county, high speed internet access to the best possible service is greatly needed. Also, Lincoln county could position itself in the greater community of Minnesota as an attractive place to live and work. We have lakes, golf courses, hunting land, and other wonderful recreation opportunities. In addition, our rural life style is appealing to those who want to downsize to a safer, quieter setting. This could easily be expanded upon if we have amenities such as broadband available to all people who reside here.
2. I strongly believe that the residents of Lincoln County have a lot of pride in their communities and want to see them thrive and succeed. Each city in Lincoln County brings different benefits to the residents of Lincoln County. From entertainment, to goods/services, to governmental needs, not to mention wonderful school systems. I think this county already provides a high-quality workforce with numerous thriving businesses and organizations.
3. x
4. Our position would be greatly enhanced if better internet was provided.
5. The quality of labor is good value for the local hourly pay rate.
6. x
7. Lincoln County needs to have a greater broad connection to better internet.
8. x
9. I'd like to learn more to be able to better share those thoughts.
10. x

11. In today's world, we can offer safe communities with great schools and hospitals to offer individuals who would like to work remotely in a rural setting.
12. As Sioux Falls, Brookings and Marshall continue to grow, Lake Benton sits in the middle of it all and is one of the most beautiful small towns in MN.
13. Good work ethic
14. Lincoln County has a lot of great outdoor and recreational opportunities paired with a low cost of living. More people than ever are working remotely or working for the gig economy. People are fleeing lawless populated areas to find peace and sanity in the countryside. Now is Lincoln County's chance to capitalize on these shifting population and work trends!
15. I feel that Lincoln County needs to draw more high quality people for our workforce.
16. We really have a nice place to live in Lincoln county. We have a lot of windmill companies and lots of jobs with them. We also have pig barns in the county also. A lot of these have young people working and they have families which is a big win for lincoln county. I think we live in a perfect part of the USA.
17. I think we are better positioned than most rural locations and many urban locations. The addition of high-speed connectivity throughout nearly all of the County is critical to support remote work and local business
18. x
19. x
20. I don't really know - I would like to RSVP to attend the meeting as a journalist with the Marshall Independent and hear what people have to say.
21. ITC interest
22. Good fast internet service is exactly what Lincoln County needs
23. With additional internet connection now available thru Lincoln County, I would hope the workforce should be able to have better access
24. ?
25. With the robust broadband system that we now have in 95% of the County we can begin to market our County as a wonderful place to work from home, or to serve technology based businesses that rely on high-speed reliable Internet. Now that we have the technology we need to attract the people who will use it.
26. LC is probably better equipped than most with having a fiber backbone and FTTH service
27. I believe that Lincoln County would benefit from this service for both home and business. With the number of folks working from home now, it is essential to have reliable internet service.
28. X
29. What is high quality? That can be defined in many ways. Does it mean refined technical skills? Does it mean a broadly trained post-secondary degree(s)? Does it mean highly motivated? As a teacher in the county for 20 years, I felt very good about the K-12 education provided to our students. Some stayed. Most left. Those students were well-prepared for what came next, even

if it meant leaving the area. With the fracturing of secondary education in Lincoln County, most of the high school students in western Lincoln County are educated outside of the county. This does not diminish the quality of learning the students receive, but it does greatly reduce a sense of local community commonality, ownership, and pride in the secondary education of our youth. I hope that quality broadband can open quality work opportunities for our graduates and others.

30. Lincoln Co. is headed in the right direction with adding fiber to parts of the Co. that were without. It will benefit businesses
- 31.
32. This seems like an incomplete sentence above. Would you like me to share thoughts on the ability to provide high quality workers in Lincoln County? Our work force in Lincoln County is spread pretty thin. People graduate from Highschool and move out of the area to get jobs. If we can offer reliable, affordable on line connections people could stay and work from home rather than relocating. Housing may also be a contributing factor, young families are looking for apartments/ rentals not home ownership. I would love to have apartments available for new young families to move to, we have schools for their kids. On line access would supplement what is not here (shopping centers and specific stores that cater to high population areas) and some entertainment. Jobs are here at all levels of education and ability, we need to support the job market with infrastructure (housing, internet) to fill the positions available
33. There are options but one of them does a horrible job of service.
- 34.
35. Schools & hospitals & nursing home sites
36. Lincoln County has the fiber internet backbone to the rural area, but we now need to use it as a tool to recruit to Lincoln county and also to help those in need to afford this incredible tool.
37. The communities of Lincoln County house great people that are dedicated to their neighbors and to their communities. They are hard working, honest and proud.
- 38.
39. I feel that since the county now has fiber through ITC, Lincoln Co is able to compete and provide a remote workforce as good if not better than anywhere else.
40. Lincoln County is full of opportunities for residents to work from home and in many small businesses. It's a wonderful rural area.
41. I'm not sure what this means. Workforce for what purposes? If that is a very general question, I'm not sure how well our available local skills match up with today's needs. Are we "undertrained" in some regards?

**How do you think businesses and industries in Lincoln County are using technology in an innovative way?**

1. New industries and businesses have sprung up over the past few years. Hendricks has added a coffee corner in the drug store and Beer brewing enterprises. I think that innovative people could be attracted to the reasonable rent or property value available in our county.

2. Lincoln county businesses and organizations have really adapted to promote their sales and events using social media accounts. When there are area events taking place they are easy to find online. Businesses have become much more active on social media ensuring that their customers are informed on updates, changes, products, sales, etc.
3. x
4. To the limit of the internet provided , yes.
5. To sell products and services.
6. x
7. x
8. x
9. I see tons of posts from Legacy Bistro on facebook and I think thats a great way to get word out about things, even I try to get some relevant posts out on our newspaper facebook page because its easier and quicker to get information out.
10. x
11. Most business are increasing their online visibility to promote their brand.
12. Worldwide economy
13. Being able to connect for meetings & to further education for employees
14. I don't know
15. x
16. I think we need the same technology as all of the world does. An awful lot of products are sold and bought online.
17. Telemedicine, precision agriculture, remote work, teleconferences, and VPNs
18. Business computers are updated online via the internet to remain secure and up to date with their software versions. The City uses the internet to read water meters and to pay utility bills online. The local theater provides internet applications to book tickets online for upcoming productions. The bank uses it for nearly all their transactions. The churches use it to stream their worship services online. The schools use it for remote learning. Organizations use it to meet virtually versus in person. Tourists can access information about locations and events via the internet website for Chamber of Commerce and community information (accessing community and state tourism information).
19. x
20. I don't know a lot about this topic either - I would like to RSVP to attend the meeting as a journalist with the Marshall Independent and hear what people have to say.
21. ITC interest
22. I don't think they are using technology to the best of their ability based on their current options for internet service

23. I'm not sure about the innovation, but know that the need for utmost internet connection is essential to a majority of the businesses
24. Schools have had to become very creative in using technology to reach students. Google meetings are now commonplace as well.
25. I know of several businesses that are doing business exclusively on-line. I think our businesses could do much more virtual options for customers - even it is facetimeing with them to show them a product or to interact with them in a more personal way.
26. n/a
27. With all of the advances in technology it is essential for businesses and industries to be able to stay on top of things or this may hurt their bottom line if they are not able to operate as they should.
28. X
29. Larson's in Hendricks is using a cell phone app for coupons or discounts. Online banking statements and online balance transfers are another relatively recent use, although not currently innovative. During peak Covid isolation and shutdown, Paul Olson made available online videos of congregation-less worship services. It was a important crutch as we limped along with Covid. Other than using the internet as another form of communication including Zoom, Skype, etc, I am not aware of truly innovative uses of technology in our area.
30. I think businesses are using the technology maybe not to its full extent. Training and guidance would be helpful in some of it.
- 31.
32. Most businesses can acquire items requested by customers by ordering on line with free shipping to the store, keeping more shoppers local. Advertising specials and events keep local activities on the minds of local residents who may plan to stay in town for entertainment and shopping rather than a trip to a bigger city. A better on line presence would let other communities know what is available and perhaps lure more families if they can see what is here
33. I think technology will continue to grow and you have to find ways to use it as a business or risk falling behind.
- 34.
35. Not sure
36. The HCHA uses the internet extensively with Telemedicine and lab and xray. I know also there is so much more we can do to help our business's to excel
- 37.
- 38.
39. Most businesses are using technology to some extent but I think they are only doing basic things. Education would help bring awareness to more innovative uses.
40. Selling and buying from home via the internet.....do support work for various business has become common place here.

41. I'm not sure that we are. "Innovative" can mean different things to different people. On one hand, many businesses don't even utilize websites or Facebook for marketing and customer relations. On the other hand, facilities like hospitals, clinics, and schools are probably leaders in technology in the county.

**How do you see **unequal access [digital equity]** to technology and the internet creating a divide in Lincoln County? If you have an example either from your family or someone you know, please share it.**

1. Yes. As a former resident of Ivanhoe, I know how hampered our Ivanhoe friends are from access to different television programs offered through their smart tv's or addition of a fire stick or a roku device on their televisions. I try to explain how we can watch live Minneapolis television news reports because of our broadband. They tell me they aren't able to access because they can't get the service we have. So they are stuck using only Dish or Direct TV services. We have choices such as HULU and other Live streaming companies that are better priced and offer live tv. Then, with our roku device, we log into the KSTP or WCCO Minneapolis apps during news time. We are greatly advantaged over our Ivanhoe friends.
2. Please see my answer from the first question. I do feel there is a clear superior internet service provider in Lincoln county and find it unfortunate that not all individuals and/or businesses have access to their services.
3. x
4. Slower internet impedes our ability to recruit and maintain the next generation of the workforce.
5. Older residents who are unfamiliar with using the internet are falling behind at a rapid rate
6. x
7. x
8. x
9. lower income households might not be able to always access the internet and might miss out on pertinent information because of no access.
10. x
11. More and more people need stable internet for distance learning, telemedicine, shopping, purchasing tickets for entertainment and much more.
12. I feel that much of the access depends on the carrier and whether or not one has access to any given tower. Often there are barriers depending on buildings in the way of signal etc.
13. Not having access to affordable internet
14. No I haven't heard of this
15. The city of Ivanhoe does not have broadband for their residents. I feel they should also be able to attain this.



16. I am not sure we would have a divided county because we all have access to internet. Some might not have the service others do.
17. Given access across almost all of the county, I personally have not witnessed a divide
18. Seniors often don't own a computer or tablet, and if they do, they often have challenges knowing how to use it. In addition, the cost of internet can be a challenge for those on a fixed or lower income.
19. x
20. In general, it makes it harder for businesses to communicate, for vital public services to work, and could contribute to education gaps.
21. ITC interest
22. unequal access definitely would create a divide in our county
23. I would tend to think those who have had the benefit of ITC internet for an extended time and have not realized how poor the service has been in other areas of the county
24. Some can afford it and some cannot. The ones who cannot afford it are the ones traditionally marginalized.
25. I think that we had greater divides prior to ITC and Woodstock building out their fiber networks. Now I believe we have some people that are still not able to afford quality Internet access, and/or do not have the computers and other equipment to benefit from it.
26. n/a
27. Not everyone can afford to have the technology that they need. With schools moving toward more in home learning it is essential for all household to have access to this service so that they are able continue to keep up with their education. It seems as though all things are on line now and parents need to be able to stay in touch with the teachers.
28. From a business perspective, the workforce in the lower income levels face challenges having internet accessibility which causes issues during the hiring process. This may also be an issue for school age kids but I have no direct knowledge in this area.
29. There is clearly a divide between the 'old' and the 'young.' For our congregation (Christ Lutheran), the 'young' had little trouble viewing worship services online and communicating with others online. For the 'old' it was frustrating, knowing that pictures, songs, and services were out there somewhere, but with little skill or technology to access them. 'Young' and 'old' do not have a cut off year. My wife and I are in our sixties and have only a few challenges with online technology. I have peers and those only a few years older, however, who throw their hands in the air and do not bother with it when they get confused or realize their technology is outdated. Updating technology costs too much for many who are retired or are fixed, restricted incomes. So, I suppose the age divide is compounded by an economic divide. Some elderly have the income for updated technology, but do not have the habit or skill for updating technology. Either way, money or not, there is a divide.
30. It's frustrating that the City of Ivanhoe can not get fiber to help its businesses when it's in the rest of the Co.
- 31.

32. I see access to technology as important as driving an automobile in Lincoln county. It is difficult to get anything done without it. Even protecting ourselves by having access to up to date weather announcements and school announcements is more efficient than radio announcements at this time. Access to technology helps our residents stay connected, healthier and gives more opportunities for education to progress and develop
33. I don't personally see that.
- 34.
35. Many of our older adults don't use, have education on how to use, cost, not ready yet
36. I continue to hear some of our elderly say "they won't touch the computer" or "they are too old to learn" . Also I believe getting computers in the hands of those who may not have the resource to get a decent computer
- 37.
- 38.
39. City of Ivanhoe does not have fiber to the home.
40. We often have calls dropped in our area....not a desirable occurrence, for sure/
41. I think I kind of address that in question #4.

**What assets should we emphasize in our [advocacy] efforts to attract people and investment to the area? What else should we be doing to strengthen Lincoln County to make it more attractive for development and to improve the quality of life?**

1. As stated before, we have lovely lakes for recreation and Hole In The Mountain park for winter and horse back riding trails. I think these resources, offering walking trails on public lands would be attractive. I also think that we should reach across the border to our South Dakota friends as these resources have attracted people from Sioux Falls, Brookings, etc.
2. I think that more wifi areas would be nice for visitors or those who do not have the means to have their own internet in their homes. Having multiple safe places for individuals to use the internet would be a major improvement. I think specifically about camping areas and spots on the main street of each town would be really nice.
3. x
4. Not sure
5. Subsidized high speed internet for businesses and schools that have a good plan to grow through technology. Property tax incentives to attract technology focused businesses
6. x
7. x
8. x
9. not sure.

10. x
11. New school in Tyler as well as a possible new hospital. Newly renovated hospital in Hendricks. Our lakes. We could use more housing and long-term care options.
12. Lake Benton's beauty of the city and the lake. Ease of access to Brookings, Sioux Falls, Marshall and Pipestone.
13. Affordable internet
14. There are many great ideas in the Lincoln County Comprehensive Plan from 2018:  
<http://www.co.lincoln.mn.us/Departments/Enviro/Complete%20Plan%202018%20Final.pdf>  
County and municipal governments should develop and advertise tax abatements for new development and subsidize or work with the state to reduce income tax for new businesses in "renaissance zones". We must create a vision of what the future could be and celebrate every small step towards that vision.
15. x
16. I think we need schools and hospitals in as many towns as possible, nursing home for the older ones also. All the towns will prosper and grow because people will live close to their jobs. We need sewers and be able to expand. We must think outside the box and get going. If we think it can not be done, we are beat already. Be positive and it will work!! I would like to see every ones kids stay in this county cause its fun to have your grand kids close to home.
17. Access to broadband county wide, affordable housing, safe and effective schools, safe communities, affordable real estate taxes, and access to outdoor recreation
18. assets: Quality educational facilities with smaller class sizes, safer communities, lower cost of housing, cultural opportunities (community theater), recreational opportunities (lakes, parks, trails, events) slower pace, no traffic!! Improvements: more available housing of all types, improved transportation options for seniors, youth centers to provide safe places for youth to gather and socialize.
19. x
20. I don't really know - I would like to RSVP to attend the meeting as a journalist with the Marshall Independent and hear what people have to say.
21. ITC interest
22. reasonable cost, great customer service, experts doing what they do.
23. It would seem appropriate to emphasize the increased internet service as one of the assets since it was mentioned we are probably ahead of the game in comparison to other areas of Minnesota and Dakotas
24. Too many rentals exist in Lincoln County. Many are not kept attractive.
25. We need to strengthen our amenities. People want more work-life balance, and we need the recreational attractions to draw them to our area. We also need to market and promote the wonderful businesses and services we have available. I feel we often undervalue what we have and feel that everywhere else is so much better - NOT TRUE! we have a wonderful quality of life and really need to let others know about it.

26. n/a
27. Lincoln County is a beautiful place to live. We need business to come to our town(s) so that people do not have to travel so far to work and shop. If people stay in town, hopefully they will start to shop more in town so that we are able to continue to keep business open in order to meet the needs of all households.
28. X
29. For me, the assets are clean water, air, and earth; affordable housing prices; good roads; and good internet. Since we have so many wind turbines in Lincoln County, I would truly welcome an agreement with the utilities that enables us to claim that a high percentage of all of our electric energy comes from the wind. I realize that Xcel buys the wind energy and that Ottertail's electricity is nearly all generated by fossil fuels. The PUC, county commissioners, and the electric utilities would need to collaborate on this. Companies are increasingly striving to be eco-friendly. A company new to this area or an existing company expanding to this area would have an excellent ecological reason to be here with such a pledge that our electricity comes mainly from the wind. A few electric vehicle charging stations along Hwy 19 and 75 would also highlight an eco-friendly message.
30. Get more fiber to the rest of the Co. and to The City of Ivanhoe. Promote the Co. and Cities more. It may lead to more people from the cities moving to rural areas to work.
- 31.
32. We have schools, jobs, hospitals and it is relatively safe here compared to bigger city struggling with gang activity and /or race related crimes. I would love to see refugees make Lincoln County their home. Many refugees have job skills ready to fill the openings here and kids to put into schools
33. Unsure at this time.
- 34.
35. Education on how to use, ways to receive devices,
36. 1) our great health care 2) our wide open space 3) "golf car" small town life 4) reasonable house cost 5) friendly communities who care for each other 6) low crime 7) great main street business's
- 37.
- 38.
39. County living but still connected to the world.
40. we need to improve our townships roads...and, in some cases, our county roads.
41. That's an age-old question and I'm not sure I have any good suggestions.

**Sustainability** initiatives strive to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. They can also help businesses become more competitive as they use materials, water and energy more efficiently in their production cycle. How are people

**and organizations in Lincoln County adopting sustainable practices in their operations? What barriers to sustainable practices exist?**

1. Wind towers have been very lucrative for this county during the construction phase. I don't know how many ongoing jobs it has created for this county, but I hope it has helped attract new residents. Is there any future for the Ivanhoe nursing home, which recently closed? It's hard to believe that this service is no longer needed. Do we need more assisted living type services or home visitors for the elderly to keep them in their homes? It seems our population continues to age, but keeping them active and housed in comfortable settings might be an area to look to in the future.???
2. Speaking on behalf of myself and the business that I work for, I think there is a lot to be learned with regard to sustainability. I think probably a majority of the businesses and organizations could adopt one or two new sustainable practices. Barriers might include not being able to afford extra staff, or take time away from current staff, to dedicate to sustainability. Might also include a lack of knowledge on how to take the first steps toward a sustainability model.
3. x
4. The biggest barrier is our small tax base. It's hard to expand assets with such a small amount of revenue
5. Ottertail is not offering as many sustainable opportunities as Xcel energy. (solar farm participation)
6. x
7. x
8. x
9. not sure.
10. x
11. More attention paid to recycling. More common practice of installing heat pumps and solar power units. More education on solar power could be used.
12. ?
13. x
14. As agriculture is our biggest industry, we must incentivize soil health practices which will make farms more profitable and protect our natural resources. A field that incorporates no-till, cover crops, and a diverse crop rotation for 3-5 years can infiltrate 15 times more water than conventionally managed land. This has a HUGE impact on county taxes for projects dealing with public ditches and water ways.
15. x
16. I think a lot of outside help can be found out of Lincoln county which can be use here. I think we are so sheltered in the county that we do not know any different.
17. Precision agriculture, which is highly technology dependent, is a major sustainability issue. Renewable energy is also a big part of the local economy.

18. x
19. x
20. I don't know a lot about this topic - I would like to RSVP to attend the meeting as a journalist with the Marshall Independent and hear what people have to say.
21. ITC interest
22. Barriers would include spotty access at best. It is hard to be competitive when your internet is down frequently.
23. Not sure
24. ?
25. I believe we do a fairly decent job of recycling and promoting re-use of products. However, like many rural areas I don't think we have as much of a view of the effects of pollution on our environment. We don't see the smog or overflowing landfills that urban areas experience, so it is easier for us to say it is "their" problem.
26. n/a
27. x
28. x
29. See my response to number 6. I see too few sustainable practices in Lincoln County. Encouragingly, some farmers are continuing to use low-till methods for land management. I do not see any companies moving toward electric vehicles in this area. Ironically, even the wind turbine maintenance vehicles seem to be all internal combustion. I have not seen an electric charging station at any of the turbine maintenance centers. In order to enhance the use of wind energy (and production of electricity) in our area, I would welcome more energy storage efforts. Years ago, Xcel had a semi trailer parked by a substation as it was studying how to store unused electricity. Thus far, the only proven technology for efficient storage of electricity is hydro storage. Europe has used it for decades. Excess electricity is used to pump water up a hill to a storage area. When there is need for extra electricity, valves open and the water flows downhill to power a hydro-turbine. Old, proven technology. While the lakes in Lincoln County are not large, most have hills by them which could hold water for such a purpose.
30. I think organizations are trying to adapt but need someone to help besides the regular staff. Lack of people in the area
- 31.
32. I like the involvement of the wind towers, they are like a beacon of progress. I like the availability of recycling and landfill collection sites. Education about the impact of what we buy, use, throw away is a good tool but we also need to change habits. Out here money talks, incentives are game changers more than new rules are.
33. Unsure
- 34.
35. I had to offer classes during Covid online only fine but this area is not educated or ready for this

36. I believe in education our people and business's to help and show them how they may be sustainable. I realize we can't be too pushy, but how about including this in a friendly visit from a county or community rep to help the business , not demanding anything
37. Lincoln County is home to several wind energy projects. People in Lincoln County see the sustainability efforts of big companies first hand. Adequate access to resources and education about personal sustainability is somewhat elusive to individuals in Lincoln County and is a possible growth area.
- 38.
39. Education of a more elderly audience who may not be familiar with what technology has to offer.
40. Need more information on these areas to answer this. But barriers would be cost of implementation.
41. Sorry, don't know.