## Are you satisfied with your Internet Connection?

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A number of folks from Southwest WI attended a conference to talk about how we can get better "connected" in this area, see the presentations and more at the <a href="Connecting Wisconsin">Connecting Wisconsin</a> website. Another resource is <a href="Wired Wisconsin">Wired Wisconsin</a> a non-profit working on this at a state level.

You may also be interested in knowing that the State of Wisconsin will invest \$28.7 million to expand broadband Internet access, including \$22.9 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. The grant will provide high-speed Internet access to 467 sites in over 380 communities in all the state's 72 counties. You can read more in this <a href="Press Release">Press Release</a> from Governor's Office.

The first step that is underway today is better understanding how well Wisconsin is connected to the internet today. So, <u>LinkAMERICA</u> (note this site is still evolving, so information may be limited) is working to "map" the current level of broadband access across the state, then the next step is to develop plans for how to improve it, here from their website are their words:

"Broadband access itself is not the goal. Our clients benefit from a holistic approach that ensures broadband investments will result in more people with better jobs, business opportunities as well as expanded access to health care, education, public safety and effective government."

"The LinkAMERICA Alliance believes that there is no "one-size-fits-all" solution to broadband deployment."