

Smart Rural Communities Powered by Pineland

Did you know that your community is a Smart Rural Community?

A Smart Rural Community SM (SRC) is about connection—neighbors to friends, teachers to students, doctors to patients, new businesses to customers, and a community to the world. Connected by fiber broadband we can achieve more, together. Smart Rural Communities are made possible by fiber-based broadband providers and the teachers, farmers, doctors, businesses (large and small), and others who are committed to driving growth and creating opportunities that help their communities thrive. As leaders in broadband technology, Smart Rural Community providers deliver cutting-edge communications services in rural spaces throughout the country. Their services open new opportunities for students and business owners, enabling remote regions to remain competitive in expanding national and global markets.

Smart Rural Communities are served by proven providers who offer 100 mbps broadband to 50% or more of their service territory, have broadband subscription rates of at least 50%, and commit to Smart Rural Community's mission of collaborative innovation. Pineland and its service areas were officially recognized with the Smart Rural Provider and Smart Rural Community designations in September of 2016.

In 2017, Pineland applied for a SRC grant opportunity by demonstrating the use of connectivity in the Metter community. The Candler County School System's telehealth program was highlighted, which offers students who are unwell the ability to access a doctor virtually for diagnosis and treatment, including delivery of medication to the school by a local pharmacy. This program allows for instant access to healthcare for ill children and alleviates working parents from work absences.



Pineland was awarded the grant, and the funding was used to set up free public Wi-Fi access in the downtown park in Metter. Recent figures estimate that an average of 1,000 connections are made per month in the park. Seeing the success of "Pineland in the Park", Pineland enabled this service at two additional parks in its service

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Directories are Going Digital

www.pineland.net



Beginning this year, Pineland will no longer be publishing traditional directories due to an excessive increase in printing costs. Our directory listings will continue to be accessible on our online directory.

To access our online directory, visit pineland.net, click the **Quick Links** tab, then **Directory**.

Copies of our printed 2022 directories are still available, and can be picked up at our Metter and Swainsboro business offices.

areas - Louisville and Swainsboro. At each of these locations, access to Wi-Fi can be gained by connecting to the Wi-Fi network named "PinelandInThePark".

We'd love to share your stories about how broadband connectivity has made a difference in your community. Send us an email at info@pinelandtelco.com.

Smart Rural Community is administered by **NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association**. To learn more about Smart Rural Communities, visit www.smartruralcommunity.org or www.ntca.org.

Safe and Sound with SEFB Notifications

For older children, back to school can mean spending time alone for a few hours each afternoon until parents return from work. Your Southeast Fire & Burglar Alarm system can offer additional peace of mind that your children are home safe until you arrive.

Your system can be customized to notify you of certain alarm activities, such as your alarm being armed, disarmed, and triggered. If each member of your family has their own unique alarm code, you can even tell who is performing each action. When the selected activities occur, text message notifications are sent to the phone numbers you've chosen, providing real time confirmation of what is happening at home.

To learn more or to setup your custom alarm notifications, contact the Southeast Fire & Burglar team at **888.963.FIRE**.



988
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