

# ARDMORE TELEPHONE NETWORK TRANSPARENCY STATEMENT

Ardmore Telephone (“Ardmore Telephone” or “Company”) provides this Network Transparency Statement in accordance with the FCC’s Restore Internet Freedom Rules to ensure that you have sufficient information to make informed choices about the purchase of broadband services. Information about Ardmore Telephone’s other policies and practices concerning broadband are available at <http://www.ardmore.net> (“Ardmore Telephone Website”).

Ardmore Telephone engages in network management practices that are tailored and appropriate for achieving optimization on the network considering the particular network architecture and technology of its broadband Internet access service. Ardmore Telephone’s goal is to ensure that all of its customers experience a safe and secure broadband Internet environment that is fast, reliable and affordable. Ardmore Telephone wants its customers to indulge in all that the Internet has to offer, whether it is social networking, streaming videos and music, to communicating through email and videoconferencing.

Ardmore Telephone’s network management includes congestion- and security-protocol-management and customers generally will not be impacted by the protocols and practices that Ardmore Telephone uses to manage its network.

## **A. Ardmore Telephone’s Network Transparency Disclosures**

Ardmore Telephone uses various tools and industry standard techniques to manage its network and deliver fast, secure and reliable Internet service. Ardmore Telephone believes in full transparency and provides the following disclosures about its network management practices:

- 1. Blocking:** Ardmore Telephone does not block or discriminate against lawful content.
- 2. Throttling:** Ardmore Telephone does not throttle, impair or degrade lawful Internet traffic.
- 3. Affiliated Prioritization:** Ardmore Telephone does not prioritize Internet traffic.
- 4. Paid Prioritization:** Ardmore Telephone has never engaged in paid prioritization. We don’t prioritize Internet for consideration to benefit particular content, applications, services or devices.
- 5. Congestion Management:** Ardmore Telephone monitors the connections on its network in the aggregate on a daily basis to determine the rate of utilization. If congestion emerges on the network, Ardmore Telephone will take the appropriate measures to relieve congestion.

On Ardmore Telephone's network, all customers have access to all legal services, applications and content online and, in the event of congestion, most Internet activities will be unaffected. Some customers, however, may experience longer download or upload times, or slower surf speeds on the web if instances of congestion do occur on Ardmore Telephone's network.

Customers using conduct that abuses or threatens the Ardmore Telephone network or which violates the company's Acceptable Use Policy, Internet service Terms and Conditions, or the Internet Service Agreement will be asked to stop any such use immediately. A failure to respond or to cease any such conduct could result in service suspension or termination.

Ardmore Telephone's network and congestion management practices are 'application-agnostic', based on current network conditions, and are not implemented on the basis of customers' online activities, protocols or applications. Ardmore Telephone's network management practices do not relate to any particular customer's aggregate monthly data usage.

Ardmore Telephone monitors its network on a daily/weekly basis to determine utilization on its network. Ardmore Telephone also checks for abnormal traffic flows, network security breaches, malware, loss, and damage to the network. If a breach is detected or high-volume users are brought to light by complaint, Ardmore Telephone provides notification to the customer via email or phone. If a violation of Ardmore Telephone's policies has occurred and such violation is not remedied, Ardmore Telephone will seek to suspend or terminate that customer's service.

6. **Application-Specific Behavior:** Except as may be provided elsewhere herein, Ardmore Telephone does not currently engage in any application-specific behaviors on its network. Customers may use any lawful applications with Ardmore Telephone.
7. **Device Attachment Rules:** Customers are required to use an Ardmore Telephone supplied ONT (optical network terminal)/modem to ensure compatible delivery of the FTTH/copper service to the end user premise. As a default only one public IPv4 address will be assigned to a customer. All other devices at the location must be secured behind a NAT capable router/firewall. Customers are encouraged but not required to use the router embedded in the Ardmore Telephone supplied ONT/modem. If the customer chooses to use a different router the built-in router can be bypassed or an ONT/modem without router functionality can be installed at Ardmore Telephone's discretion. Customers may attach devices of their choosing to the router, including additional wired or wireless routers, laptops, desktop computers, video game systems, televisions, or other network-enabled electronic equipment. However, customers are responsible for ensuring that their equipment

does not harm Ardmore Telephone's network or impair the service of other customers.

Ardmore Telephone is not responsible for the functionality or compatibility of any equipment provided by its customers. Customers are responsible for securing their own equipment to prevent unauthorized access to Ardmore Telephone's broadband network by third parties and will be held responsible for the actions of such third parties who gain unauthorized access through unsecured customer equipment. Only one device is allowed direct connection to the public facing interface of the ONT/modem.

8. **Network Security:** Ardmore Telephone knows the importance of securing its network and customers from network threats and annoyances. The company promotes the security of its network and patrons by protections from such threats as spam, viruses, firewall issues, and phishing schemes. Ardmore Telephone also deploys spam filters in order to divert spam from an online customer's email inbox into a quarantine file while allowing the customer to control which emails are identified as spam. Customers may access the spam files through the email. Spam files are automatically deleted if not accessed within 30 days.

As its normal practice, Ardmore Telephone does not block any protocols or traffic from lawful content for purposes of network management, but Ardmore Telephone may block or limit such traffic as spam, viruses, malware, or denial of service attacks to protect network integrity and the security of our customers. As part of "Good Neighbor" network practices, the following common ports are filtered at the core of the public network facing upstream internet access to limit nuisances and known port use for malicious traffic.

Port(s): netbios-ns, netbios-ss, netbios-dgm, chargen log, 19, 1900, tcp 135, udp 135, tcp 138, tcp 139, udp 445, tcp 445, tcp 707, udp 995, udp 996, udp 997, udp 998, udp 999, udp 1349, tcp 1349, tcp 1025, tcp 1900, tcp 2745, tcp 5000, tcp 5554, udp 8998, udp 13155, tcp 13155, tcp 25532, udp 25532, udp range 54320 54321, udp range 54320 54321

The following features are enabled on access-profiles to protect customers, the transport network and the Ardmore Telephone core network.

1. ARP proxy, to reduce arp traffic on the network and drop packets not destined for an Ip or mac listed in the association table.
2. DHCP Relay, to help prevent MAC and IP spoofing.
3. Blacklisting, enabled to shut a customer facing port down if ARP, DHCP and IGMP packets are excessive, to prevent DOS attacks and protect the network.
4. Ingress broadcast and Unicast rates are applied to customer ports as well.

## **B. Network Performance**

### **1. Service Descriptions**

Ardmore Telephone deploys Internet access to its subscribers through hardwired broadband access (Fiber to the home) and ADSL.

### **2. Network Performance**

Ardmore Telephone makes every effort to support advertised speeds and will dispatch repair technicians to customer sites to perform speed tests as needed to troubleshoot and resolve speed and application performance caused by Ardmore Telephone's network. Ardmore Telephone measures availability, latency, and aggregate utilization on the network and strives to meet internal service level targets.

However, the bandwidth speed at which a particular distant website or other Internet resources may be downloaded, or the speed at which your customer information may be uploaded to a distant website or Internet location is affected by factors beyond Ardmore Telephone's control, including the speed of the connection from a distant web server to the Internet, congestion on intermediate networks, and/or limitations on your own computer equipment, including a wireless router. In addition, your service performance may be affected by the inside wiring at your premise. Accordingly, you, the customer, must consider the capabilities of your own equipment when choosing an Ardmore Telephone broadband service. Your computers and/or wireless or other networks in your homes or offices may need an upgrade in order to take full advantage of the chosen Ardmore Telephone broadband plan.

For Fiber and T1 service, Ardmore Telephone measures traffic every 5 min. All services are best effort. Ardmore Telephone tests each service for actual and expected access speeds at the time of network installation to demonstrate that the service is capable of supporting the advertised speed. Customers may also test their actual speeds using the speed test located at [www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net) and may request assistance by calling our business office at 256-423-2131 or by email at [customerservice@ardmore.net](mailto:customerservice@ardmore.net).

Based on the network information Ardmore Telephone receives from its monitoring efforts, Ardmore Telephone's network is delivering data transmission rates advertised for the different high-speed Internet services. To be sure, Ardmore Telephone has implemented a program of testing the performance of its network by using a test protocol similar to the one sanctioned by the FCC. We installed specific network performance monitoring equipment at aggregation points across our network and conducted a series of tests using this equipment. Ardmore Telephone reports the results of this testing below. This result applies to both upload and download data rates, and applies for measurements made both at peak times and over a 24-hour period:

## **DOWNLOAD & UPLOAD SPEEDS**

### **Download Speeds**

<b>ADVERTISED</b>	<b>(Local) ACTUAL SUSTAINED</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE DIFFERENTIAL</b>
<b>3 Mbps</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>6 Mbps</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>10 Mbps</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>15 Mbps</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>25 Mbps</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>50 Mbps</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>100 Mbps</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0%</b>

### **Upload Speeds**

<b>ADVERTISED</b>	<b>(Local) ACTUAL SUSTAINED</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE DIFFERENTIAL</b>
<b>512 kbps</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>2 Mbps</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>3 Mbps</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>25 Mbps</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>50 Mbps</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0%</b>

**\*\* Second test using commercial speedtest.net**

### **3. Impact of Non-BIAS Data Services**

The FCC has defined Non-Broadband Internet Access Services (Non-BIAS) to include services offered by broadband providers that share capacity with Broadband Internet Access Services (BIAS) (previously known as "Specialized Services") also offered by the provider over the last-mile facilities.

Ardmore Telephone provides Voice-over-the-Internet-Protocol (VoIP) to some customers. The VoIP traffic uses private RFC 1918 addresses, dedicated paths for VoIP and QoS on the routers/switches it touches. The QoS priority is based on the source and destination IP. Where VoIP traffic is combined with best effort Internet traffic and QoS priority is employed, the network could endure marginal delays if there are instances of bandwidth contention, although very unlikely.

### **C. Commercial Terms**

Pricing and additional service information may be found [here](#).

In addition to this Network Transparency Statement, patrons may also find links to the following on the Ardmore Telephone Website:

- Privacy Statement
- Terms and Conditions
- Fair Access Policy

For questions, complaints or requests for additional information, please contact Ardmore Telephone at:

Business Office at 256-423-2131

Email at [customerservice@ardmore.net](mailto:customerservice@ardmore.net)