

# "They are Oscar-level actors."

They know how to address all your concerns. They know how to mentally prepare you for what you're doing. And they always have an answer as to how they're helping you. They can add veiled threats in these situations to motivate the victim as well."

Bottom line: Don't believe anything anyone tells you, said Marty Fleischhacker, MN Dept of commerce

## Scope of the Cryptocurrency Fraud Problem

- In 2023, Americans reported losing over \$5.6 billion to cryptocurrency scams, a
  45% increase from 2022. The FBI's <u>Internet Crime Complaint Center</u> (IC3)
  reported a 53% increase in losses from cryptocurrency-related investment fraud
  schemes, from \$2.57 billion in 2022 to \$3.96 billion in 2023. Scammers are
  increasingly targeting seniors with intimidation tactics and manipulations, often
  using cryptocurrency ATMs.
- According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, cryptocurrency ATM schemes have increased, particularly among older adults. Of the more than 5,500 complaints involving cryptocurrency kiosks reported to the agency's Internet Crime Complaint Center in 2023 (the latest data available), almost half came from people over 60. Of the roughly \$189 million of losses involved in the complaints, \$124 million belonged to those over 60
- In 2023, consumers in Minnesota reported losing \$125.6 million to fraud, according to Federal Trade Commission data. Nationally, the FTC says, Americans lost more than \$10 billion that year; due to underreporting, that figure is likely far higher.

### How Crypto ATM Scams Work

- Several factors make crypto attractive to scammers: There's no bank or
  other centralized authority to flag suspicious transactions, crypto transfers
  can't be reversed, and most people are still unfamiliar with how crypto
  works, according to the FTC.
- Cryptocurrency ATM/Kiosks, are used for legitimate purposes to convert
  dollars into digital currency. But criminals also rely on them as a fast, easy
  and often untraceable way to get access to victims' cash. Often used in
  tech support, extortion or government impersonator scams, a criminal will
  instruct their victim to withdraw cash from their own bank and deposit it into
  a crypto ATM/Kiosk to buy virtual currency. The virtual currency is then
  sent to the scammer's digital wallet, usually irreversibly.
- With cryptocurrency ATM/Kiosks there's "a large level of confusion" because people aren't familiar with them. "When the scammer gets them on the phone, keeps them on the phone, directs them to go obtain cash from the bank ... they're just in the mold where they're just following directions,"

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FOX 9





'Just too trusting': North metro woman shares bank scam story in hopes of sparing others

She doesn't know if she'll regain her sense of security: 'He knocked that out of me. Maybe forever.'

'Once it's gone, there's no getting it back': Scammers sending victims to cryptocurrency ATMs

"I don't want anyone else to go through what I went through," one victim said.

Stillwater passes ordinance to ban cryptocurrency ATMs after residents scammed out of \$250,000

Recent Law Targets Cryptocurrency Scams in Minnesota Stillwater police raise alert about scams requiring crypto payments

**Protecting Elderly** 

Citizens from Crypto Scams in Brooklyn

How crooks convinced her to put \$17,500 into a bitcoin ATM to 'secure' her money

Park

AARP Fights Back Against Scammers Who Use Crypto ATMs to Steal Millions

### Measures Being Adopted to Stop Crypto ATM Fraud

- Transaction limits for new users
- Live verbal confirmation for larger transactions,
- Full refunds for fraudulent transactions reported within a certain timeframe
- Operator requirements like registration, disclosure of ATM locations, and provision of receipts with transaction details.
- State and federal legislatures are also pushing for these and other preventative measures on the operator side.
- Disclose to consumers relevant terms and conditions.

# New Minnesota crypto law goes into effect to protect consumers against fraud

A new Minnesota law goes into effect on August 1, 2024, to protect consumers against cryptocurrency fraud. The Minnesota Department of Commerce Financial Institutions and Enforcement Divisions are taking action to ensure crypto companies are licensed to operate in Minnesota and comply with the new consumer protection law.

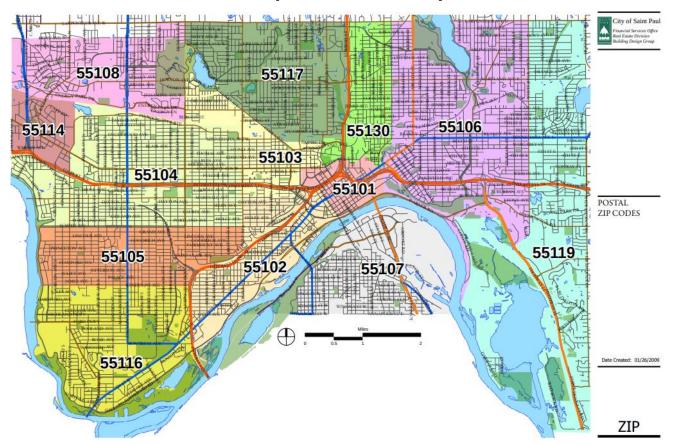
Consumers are using crypto kiosks, which work similar to cash ATMs, with increasing frequency. Unfortunately, crypto kiosk users are increasingly also becoming victims of scams. During the 2024 Legislative Session, Commerce worked with the bill's chief authors Rep. Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger and Sen. Jen McEwen, as well as with local law enforcement and other stakeholders, to develop this critical consumer protection bill.

The law applies to licensed crypto kiosk operators, requiring them to:

- Disclose to consumers relevant terms and conditions.
- Issue refunds for those involved in fraud if they are a new customer.
- Set a maximum daily transaction limit of \$2,000 for new customers.

"Unfortunately, crypto scams are becoming more common, and scammers used crypto kiosks to steal money from consumers. This new law works to protect Minnesotans from scams and to recover funds consumers lost to fraud," said Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold.

# St Paul, MN Zip Code Map



#### Bitcoin Kiosk ATMs in Minnesota 375

#### Bitcoin ATMs in Saint Paul, United States. Total number of Bitcoin ATMs / Tellers in and around Saint Paul: 263 E MAIN ST St. Croix Falls Osceola Clear Lake Prairie Farm Coins: O Bitcoin (BTC) Sand Cree O (2) Lightning BTC (LBTC) Cylon O Bitcoin Cash (BCH) O () Ether (ETH) O Dash (DASH) Litecoin (LTC) Colfax MINNEAPOLIS O 2 Zcash (ZEC) Monero (XMR) Town of F Dogecoin (DOGE) O @ Tether (USDT) Spring Valley Bloomington Cottage Grove Martell O Ripple (XRP) Norwood Young USD Coin (USDC) CR 42 Operations: Red Cedar O Buy Lakeville Plum City O Sell Belle Plaine Location type: Mondovi ATM Henderson Teller Other Northfield Lake City Pepin

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### What is a Cryptocurrency Kiosk/ATM

- Kiosks are similar to your traditional ATM but focus only on cryptocurrency-related transactions. Many cryptocurrency kiosks exist in gas stations, check cashing establishments, and grocery stores.
- You can use a kiosk in the same way you use your cryptocurrency wallet on a cryptocurrency-related app.
- Minnesotans may be lured by scammers to use a kiosk to transfer money to a wallet as a way for the scammers to steal their money and disappear without a trace. Often, these requests to transfer money are urgent in nature in an attempt to prompt the person to act quickly.
- Kiosk operators are also required to have a money transmission license.

# What is a Cryptocurrency Kiosk







### Major Bitcoin Kiosks in St Paul, MN



#### Athena Bitcoin

- 9 St Paul Locations
- o 3,600 US Locations

#### Bitcoin Depot -

- 10 St Paul Locations
- 103 MN locations
- o 16,331 US Locations

#### Rockit Coin

- 4 St Paul Locations
- 26 MN Locations

#### Coinflip

- 9 St Paul Locations
- o 5,000 US Locations
- There are 30,000 Bitcoin ATMs in the United States, up from only about 1,200 at the end of 2017
- There are more than 375 Bitcoin ATMs in Minnesota

# Major Bitcoin Kiosks in St Paul by Zip Code

Major Bitcoin Companies in St Paul MN					
Zipcode	Athena Bitcoin	<b>Bitcoin Deport</b>	<b>Rockit Coin</b>	Coinflip	Total
55101		1		1	2
55102	1				1
55103		1			1
55104	1	2			3
55105	1		1		2
55106	1			2	3
55107					0
55108			1		1
55109	1				1
55114					0
55116	1	1	1	1	4
55117	1	2			3
55118	1	1		1	3
55119			1	2	3
55121	1				1
55122		1		1	2
55128		1		1	2
55130					0
Total	9	10	4	9	32

### Bitcoin Depot Kiosks in St Paul - 10 Locations





### Bitcoin Depot Kiosks in St Paul - 10 Locations

**BITCOIN DEPOT** See All Locations Buy Crypto V Learn v Partner With Us V Company Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -1345 Marshall Ave 2439 7th St W 4595 Nicols Rd 1025 Hadley Ave N 1345 Marshall Ave 1025 Hadley Ave N 2439 7th St W 4595 Nicols Rd Saint Paul, MN 55104 Saint Paul, MN 55116 Saint Paul, MN 55122 Saint Paul, MN 55128 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM - 381 Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -1104 Rice St Minnesota St 1365 S Robert St 1475 University Ave W 1104 Rice St. 381 Minnesota St. 1365 S Robert St. 1475 University Ave W Saint Paul, MN 55117 Saint Paul, MN 55101 Saint Paul, MN 55118 Saint Paul, MN 55104 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 [678] 435-9604 Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM - 623 Bitcoin Depot - Bitcoin ATM -Como Ave 1608 Rice St 623 Como Ave 1608 Rice St.

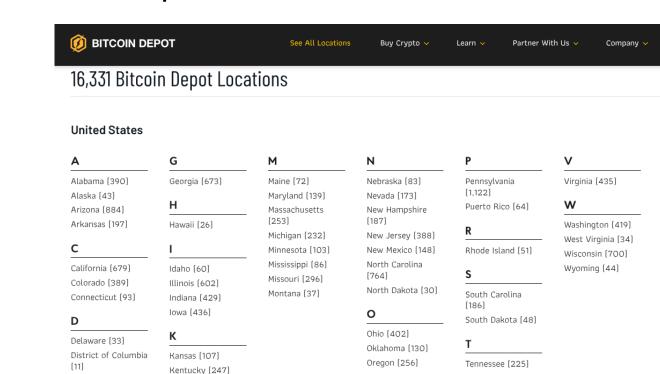
Saint Paul, MN 55117

[678] 435-9604

Saint Paul, MN 55103

[678] 435-9604

## Bitcoin Depot Kiosks in USA - 16,331 Locations



Florida [1,494]

Louisiana (302)

Texas [1.666]

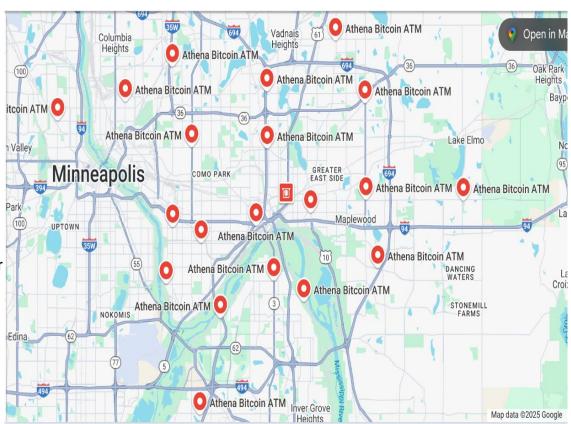
Utah [105]

U

### Athena Bitcoin Kiosks in St Paul - 9 Locations



With nearly 3,600 locations nationwide, Athena Bitcoin makes buying Bitcoin easy and accessible. Our ATMs are designed with top-notch security measures to protect your transactions and give you peace of mind.



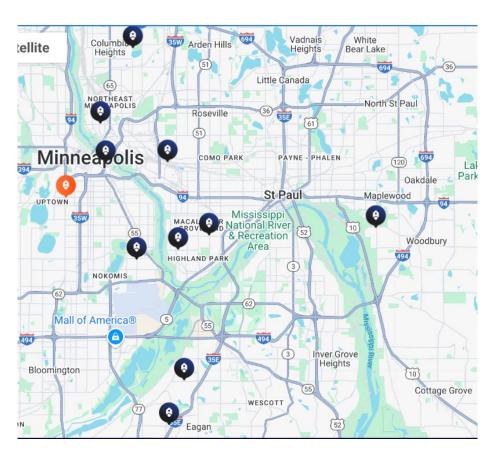
### Athena Bitcoin Kiosks in St Paul - 9 Locations

Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM
306 Larpenteur Ave E	97 Annapolis St E	1345 Grand Ave 55105
55117	55118	
Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM
2057 Marshall Ave	530 St Peter St 55102	2473 Division St N
55104		55109
Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM	Athena Bitcoin ATM
1390 3rd St E 55106	966 Sibley Memorial	2221 Ford Pkwy 55116

Hwy 55121

### RockitCoin Kiosks in St Paul - 4 Locations





#### RockitCoin Kiosks in St Paul - 4

#### Marathon / Lucky's Station

1351 Randolph Ave St Paul, MN 55105 USA

#### **BP Gas**

2005 Ford Pkwy St Paul, MN 55116 USA

#### Winner Gas / Pump N Munch

2233 Energy Park Dr #900 St Paul, MN 55108 USA

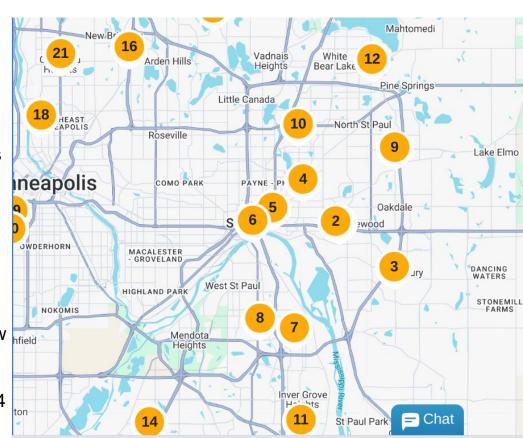
#### **Shell / McKnight Tobacco n Wireless**

279 McKnight Rd S St Paul, MN 55119 USA

### Coinflip Kiosks in St Paul - 9 Locations



About CoinFlip The company operates the world's largest network of cryptocurrency kiosks by transaction volume with more than 5,000 kiosks across 49 U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Italy, Panama, Mexico and Brazil.Oct 17, 2024



Coinflip Kiosks in St Paul - 9 Locations						
Smokes Vapor Zone	Your Exchange Money Ctr	Holiday Station #3513				
2111 Old Hudson Road Saint Paul, MN 55119	785 Seventh St E St Paul, MN 55106	3344 Hadley Ave North Oakdale, MN 55128				

orth

East 7th Liquor **Holiday Station #3827 Sunray BP** 385 E 7Th St. St. Paul, MN 8490 South East Point 344 Ruth St N St Paul, 55101

MN 55119 Douglas Rd Cottage Grove, MN 55016 **Tobacco & Ecig Sales Maryland Tobacco** 

Vape Genius & CBD 1676 S Robert St S West 1375 Maryland Avenue St. Paul, MN 55118 3406 Federal Dr Eagan, East Saint Paul, MN MN 55122 55106

# Thank You