



Dig Safely  
with Dig Safe

1-888-344-7233

With warmer days ahead, the list of projects will grow and many will materialize outdoors.

Please remember, no matter how large or small the job, customers need to be cautious when digging. Understanding where the underground utilities are around your home or business is crucial regardless of whether you plan to dig six inches or six feet. Soil erosion can cause water, sewer, electricity and natural gas lines to be closer to the surface than expected. By calling Dig Safe, a free service, utilities are notified before the digging begins and various buried lines are identified using the following color codes:

**Red:** ✘ Electric

**Yellow:** ✘ Gas, oil, steam

**Orange:** ✘ Communications

**Blue:** ✘ Water

**Green:** ✘ Sewer/drainage

**Pink:** ✘ Survey marks

**White:** ✘ Proposed excavation

Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire state laws require advance notice of at least three business days, while Rhode Island and Vermont state laws require advance notice of at least two business days. Dig Safe processes all locate requests Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., not including holidays. Off-hour coverage is provided for emergency work only.

Some electric utilities do not mark private property and/or facilities they do not own so it is best to notify TMLP directly in addition to calling Dig Safe to learn whether TMLP is responsible for marking the Dig Safe that you have called in. TMLP does not mark underground electric facilities that we do not own (i.e. customers underground cables on private property like service from pole to house or business, service from manhole or pole to transformer, and service from transformer or hand hole to house or business).

## Avoiding peak energy use saves everyone money

Although it's hard to imagine, the dog days of summer will soon be upon us and come noon time of those days, everyone's going to be lowering the temperature on their air conditioners and turning on the pool pumps to keep the kids happy. Unfortunately, during the hottest part of the day (or peak summer hours—noon to 5 p.m.), when TMLP's costs are the greatest, our Independent System Operator-New England (ISO-NE), will record our "peak" electrical demand and those costs will follow us for one year until the next summer peak.

This summer, we will be reminding customers regularly that cutting back where/when possible during peak periods will save TMLP money and ultimately save our customers money. We will provide tips over the coming months on ways customers can remain comfortable without using record amounts of electricity during the summer months.

## TMLP numbers to call...the "right" number for speedy answers

When calling into the TMLP, your call will be handled more efficiently if you call the correct number. The list is as noted below:

Outage-related calls:

**(508) 824-3111**

Customer service calls, including billing issues:

**(508) 824-6976**

Customer service calls for Internet customers:

**(508) 880-8657**

Administrative offices:

**(508) 824-5844**

Dig Safe Matters:

**(888) 344-7233**





www.tmlp.com

55 Weir Street, P.O. Box 870  
Taunton, MA 02780

### Old refrigerators...the energy hog of the kitchen

According to the Department of Energy (DOE), refrigerators use more electricity than any other kitchen appliance. In fact, over 51 percent of the kitchen's usage goes into running the refrigerator. In terms of the total household energy cost, the biggest user is air conditioning followed by the refrigerator, which accounts for 14% of the average electrical bill.

If money is tight and you can't afford to go out and replace your current fridge with an Energy Star model, there are a few things you can do to cut your power bill right now.

**Check door seals:** As refrigerators get older, their door gaskets often develop holes or become brittle, which translates to an incomplete seal that lets out cold air. First, clean the gasket. Gently stretch out the seal and use a mix of baking soda and water to sponge out any dirt or mildew that has collected in its ridges. Inspect the seal to see if it has any holes. After the seal dries off, perform the paper test: Simply close a sheet of paper (or dollar bill) and try to pull it out. If the door seal doesn't hold the paper snugly, it will need to be replaced (replacements can be found at the local hardware store and installation is easy).

**Keep it cool:** Outside heat sources can warm up the refrigerator, making it work harder. If possible, position the refrigerator away from windows, ovens and dishwashers. You also might want to make sure there's a bit of space all the way around it because if it's crowded up against walls, counters or other appliances, air won't be able to freely circulate.

**Cut back:** According to the DOE, 17% of U.S. households have two or more refrigerators and millions more have spare freezers. Second refrigerators and freezers are usually older than the main fridge, which means that they consume even more electricity. If the second refrigerator is being used to keep beer, wine and extra beverages cold for the family gatherings, you may want to consider consolidation.

**Clean it out:** If the shelves in the fridge are packed with food, air will have a harder time flowing through, which can cut down on its energy efficiency. The coils in the back of the fridge are often neglected and can become covered in dust bunnies and grime. Clean off and dust the coils for better performance.

**Check the temperature:** The optimum temperature to keep your fridge is between 35-40 degrees Fahrenheit.

#### Customer service for electric customers

(508) 824-6976

#### Outage-related call

(508) 824-3111

#### Online customers

(508) 880-8657

#### Administrative offices

(508) 824-5844

#### Dig Safe issue

(888) 344-7233

#### Office hours

Monday through Friday  
7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

#### Payment locations

33 Weir Street  
Our office is open  
Monday through Friday

#### Drop boxes

33 and 55 Weir Street  
(to the left of the front door)

Trucchi's Supermarket  
53 Tremont Street  
534 County Street

#### TMLP Online help desk

Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.  
Saturday 9:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.  
Sunday closed

#### Commissioners' meetings

June 13 at 4:30 p.m.

#### Commissioners

Peter Corr, Chairman  
Mark Blackwell Sr.  
Joseph Martin, Secretary

#### General Manager

Michael Horrigan



Incandescent light bulbs **out**...

Compact fluorescent lights **in**

Beginning in 2012, the incandescent light bulb will be phased out of production, starting with the 100-watt bulb first followed by the 75-watt bulbs in 2013, and the 65- and 40-watt bulbs in 2014. The law requires that all light bulbs produced after January 1, 2012 must be 25%-30% more efficient; the law does NOT require consumers to throw out their old bulbs and it remains legal to sell and buy them for as long as inventories remain available.

#### Bill presentment now available on line

If you would like your TMLP bills sent to you electronically, visit us at [www.tmlp.com](http://www.tmlp.com) to sign up. While you're thinking of saving time and money, consider paying your TMLP electronically.

Visit <http://billpay.tmlp.com> and follow the easy step-by-step instructions.