

LIGHT READING **TMLP** Summer 2017

Save Money During The Summer Heat

Keep Cool This Summer and Save Energy

Electric consumption soars during hot weather, especially during heat waves and extended periods of uncomfortably high temperatures and humidity.

Air conditioning, whole house and attic fans, and window/room fans can lessen the uncomfortableness, but their extended use causes most utilities, like TMLP, to reach peak levels of electric usage during the summer months.

TMLP customers can help conserve energy by turning off air conditioners and opening the windows if there is a cool breeze, especially during the evening hours.

Window and room air conditioners and fans should also be turned off before leaving the house, even if you're going out for a few minutes. It only takes a few minutes to get the house to a comfortable temperature after turning the air conditioner on.

During the hottest part of the day, closing the drapes or blinds will help keep the house cool. You can also do this before leaving for work in the morning.

Small changes can make a big difference in the amount of electricity we use this summer!

TMLP in the Community

TMLP has been a partner with the Leddy School for many years.

During the past few months, TMLP staff participated in Read Across America, Field Day, and Safety Day. These are just a few of the many examples of our involvement in the communities we serve!

Save The Date

Sunday, October 1, 2017
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

TMLP Celebrates Public Power Week!

Bring your family to join us for food and fun at our facility at 55 Weir Street in Taunton.

Details will be posted to our website

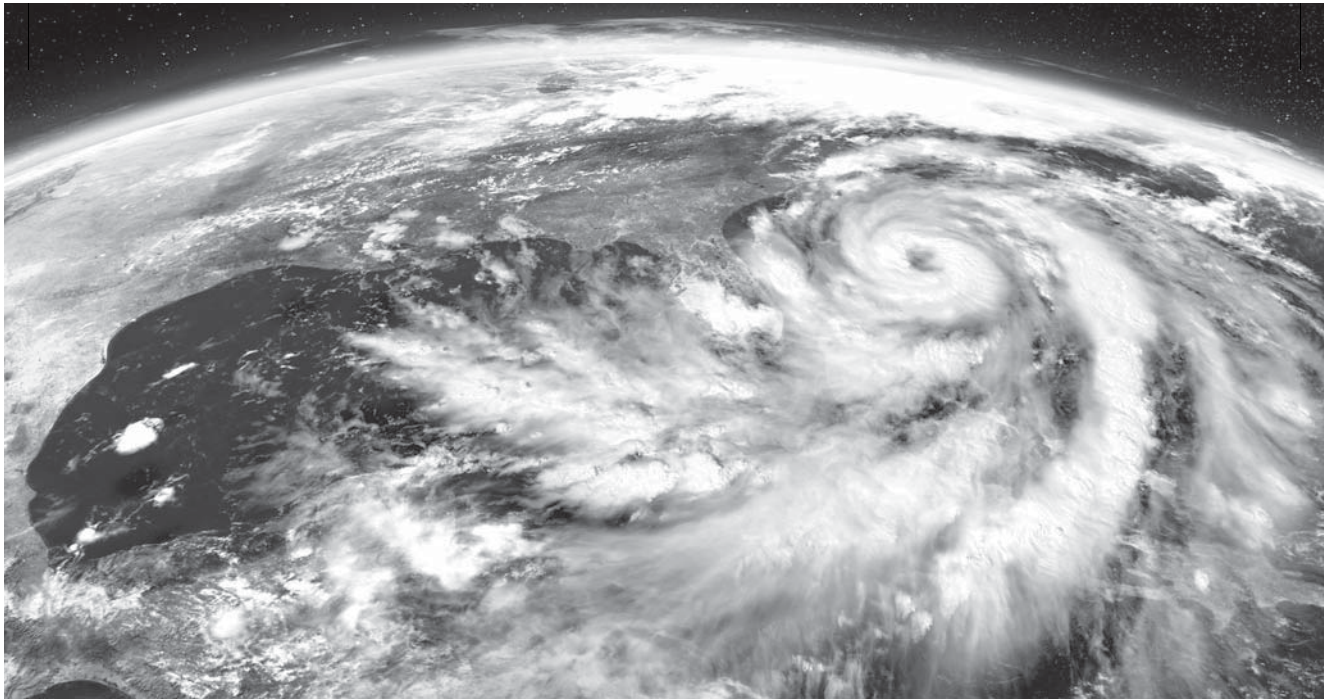
<http://www.tmlp.com>

Keep the Kids Safe This Summer

School vacation is a time most children spend lots of time outdoors. Keep them safe this summer by following these helpful tips:

- Flying a kite can be fun, but fly them in wide open areas, like the beach. If you are flying a kite, or have Mylar or helium-filled balloons on strings, make sure to keep away from power lines, as the kite line or balloon strings can come in contact with power lines. Electricity can travel down and cause a shock or start a fire.
- Use caution when carrying a long object like a pool skimmer or ladder. You could accidentally come in contact with an overhead electrical wire.
- Get out of the water if you hear thunder. Never go swimming during an electrical storm.
- Don't let children climb utility poles and keep them away from electric substations.
- Don't affix signs to electric utility poles.
- Stay away from a fallen electrical wire. Call TMLP at (508) 824-3111 or 9-1-1. Don't touch a wire that is down – it could be live – and don't touch anyone who has come in contact with a live wire.
- Don't throw anything at, or on, electric power lines. You may think it's fun to see if your tied sneakers can wrap around the wire, but it's dangerous.
- If you have a drone, fly it in an open area to avoid overhead power lines.
- Use your electrical tools away from any wet surface or swimming pool. Don't touch any electrical tools if you are wet, are standing in a puddle, or are in a pool.
- When using electric hedge clippers or an electric lawn mower, be careful of the cord.

Email sonjabritland@tmlp.com with comments or questions regarding this newsletter.



Be Prepared

Hurricane season is here, and while we have advance warning thanks to sophisticated weather monitoring equipment, we never really know the extent or severity of a storm until it is on our doorstep.

Regardless of whether a major storm impacts our area as a hurricane, a tropical storm or a nor'easter, TMLP recommends that customers be ready when severe weather threatens:

- keep an eye, and ear, to the news for updates on storm tracks and timing;
- know where the flashlights are and keep them handy;
- make sure there are fresh batteries in the house for radios and flashlights;
- as a last resort, if you use candles in an outage, keep them away from children and any flammable materials. Don't fall asleep without extinguishing all candles;
- bring in all lawn furniture, plants, and other decorations – they could become projectiles in heavy winds;
- have a manual can opener and an ample supply of nonperishable food in the house;
- keep all cars with a full tank of gas should the power be out for any length of time; also, be sure you have a safely stored supply of gas for any emergency generator equipment you may own;
- keep your cell telephone fully charged, especially if you don't have a landline;
- prepare a first aid kit with all necessary medications. Make sure that your prescriptions are filled and you have enough medication to last several days;
- know how, and where, to turn off electricity and water if you need to;
- have rain gear and protective clothing if you need to leave the home for any reason;
- keep cash on hand in case power is out to ATMs and you need to buy emergency supplies;
- have at least three gallons of water per person set aside as part of your disaster/emergency kit.

If the power goes out:

- keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed;
- keep one single lamp on so that you'll know when the power is restored;
- unplug all electrical appliances if you need to evacuate;
- remember that most cordless home phones won't work if the power is out. If you can, buy a corded phone for your house;
- throw out any food in the refrigerator or freezer that reaches a temperature above 41° F. If you aren't sure of its freshness, throw it out. This is especially true is once the power has been restored.

In the event of an outage, TMLP customers should call (508) 824-3111. Do not assume that someone else has reported the outage in your neighborhood. Do not call 9-1-1; doing so may tie up the lines for a real emergency.

Now is the time for all customers to not only review their preparations, but to also be proactive by protecting appliances and electronics from voltage instability or outages caused by storms and momentary power fluctuations. Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) systems and surge suppressors will best protect this equipment. These protection devices can be purchased locally.

And if your power does go out, or bad weather comes our way, TMLP crews will be out in the service area to restore power as soon as it is safe to do so.

**Sign up for a Free Home Energy Audit!
Call 1-888-772-4242**



www.tmlp.com

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

Customer service for electric customers
(508) 824-6976

Outage-related call
(508) 824-3111

Administrative offices
(508) 824-5844

Dig Safe issue
(888) 344-7233

Office hours

Regular: Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.
June 5th - September 1st, 2017:
7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
excluding July 3rd - 7th, 2017:
7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., closed
July 4th

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.

Commissioners

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

General Manager
Kenneth Goulart