

# LIGHT READING **TMLP** Winter 2021



## Rebate Applications Due Soon

### TMLP Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Applications must be in by January 31st

If you're one of the many TMLP customers who purchased a qualified energy efficient ENERGY STAR appliance between January 1st and December 31st, 2020, and you haven't submitted your rebate application yet, you may be eligible to receive a rebate if you submit your application and accompanying materials by January 31, 2021.

Only ENERGY STAR appliances are eligible for a rebate and rebates are limited to one ENERGY STAR appliance purchase per household per calendar year. Appliances that may qualify will have the ENERGY STAR logo on the yellow Energy Guide label that is attached to the appliance. Among the energy efficient items that qualify are ENERGY STAR clothes washers, electric clothes dryers, dishwashers, ground source and ductless mini-split heat pumps, refrigerators, room air conditioners, programmable and Wi-Fi thermostats, and dehumidifiers.

You'll also find the list of appliances and rebate amounts at <http://www.energystar.gov/products/>.

A copy of all sales receipts is required to receive an incentive rebate. Customers must have had an active residential electric account with TMLP for at least six months and have a zero balance (with no arrears) for at least six months.

The appliance must be installed at the account location and TMLP reserves the right to inspect the installation on the premises.

For a list of qualified ENERGY STAR appliances that are eligible for a TMLP 2020 rebate incentive, as well as the rebate amounts, visit the website [www.tmlp.com](http://www.tmlp.com). You'll also find information on the 2021 program on the website.

Don't forget .... Applications and accompanying documentation received after January 31, 2021 will not be honored for 2020 purchases.

### Go Green!

TMLP's 'Go Green 100%' program is designed specifically for residential and commercial customers who want their electricity to come from 100% renewable energy sources. This is a great opportunity for customers to do their small part to combat global warming.

When a TMLP customer signs up for the voluntary program, TMLP then purchases the qualifying Massachusetts Class 1 Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) to meet their electricity needs. The renewable energy source will be guaranteed through the purchase of the Mass Class 1 RECs.

To qualify you must be a TMLP customer of record for six months, have not been in arrears for the past six months and do not have an outstanding balance. Once the application has been processed, a new line item will be added to the monthly invoice which currently equals \$.019 per kWh consumed. The REC market will dictate this amount in future REC purchases.

Customers interested in signing up can call TMLP at 508-824-6976 or stop by the TMLP office at 33 Weir Street in Taunton during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### If You're In Need Of Help

COVID-19 has created a greater need for assistance this winter especially if you need help paying your heating bills. There are many organizations that may be able to help:

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) or fuel assistance is funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and assists low-income individuals and families with the cost of heating their homes during the winter season. The program is managed by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development in conjunction with regional nonprofit and local government organizations, including Citizens for Citizens (CFC), One Taunton Green in Taunton. Households with annual household gross income less than or equal to 60% of the estimated state median income may be eligible.

Citizens For Citizens also administers the Weatherization Assistance Program which is a year-round program designed to help low-income households reduce their heating bills by providing home energy efficiency services. The Heating Emergency Assistance Retrofit Task Weatherization Assistance Program (HEARTWAP) which provides emergency heating system repair and replacement services to homeowners is also administered by Citizens For Citizens. Both the Weatherization program and HEARTWAP are available to residents who qualify for LIHEAP.

For information and income go to <http://cfcinc.org/> or <https://www.mass.gov/home-energy-assistance-programs>, or call (508) 823-6346.

TMLP customers who may be having difficulty paying their electric bills this winter, regardless of income, should contact TMLP at 508-824-6976 to discuss payment options.

Additional resources are also available through the following agencies:

TMLP Energy Fund  
c/o St. Vincent DePaul Society  
141 Washington St.  
Taunton, MA 02780  
Telephone (508) 823-6676

Human Services  
30 Olney St.  
Taunton, MA 02780  
Telephone (508) 821-1420  
Website: <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/human-services-department>

Self Help (Raynham Residents Only)  
1362 Main St.  
Brockton, MA  
Telephone (508) 588-5440  
Website: <http://selfhelpinc.org/site/programs-services/>

Department of Transitional Assistance  
21 Spring St.  
Taunton, MA 02780  
Telephone (508) 884-5300

Salvation Army  
25 Shawmut Road  
Canton, MA  
Telephone (339) 502-5900

Massachusetts also has a statewide information and referral line – Mass 2-1-1- that is available 24-hours a day in more than 140 languages. 2-1-1 connects callers with critical social service programs and organizations in their local community. The service can be reached by dialing 2-1-1 directly from any landline or cell phone in the state. For information about the resources available through Mass2-1-1 visit the website <https://mass211.org>.

Email [sonjabritland@tmlp.com](mailto:sonjabritland@tmlp.com) with comments or questions regarding this newsletter.



## Winter Energy Tips

Making energy efficient improvements doesn't mean that you'll break your budget, or the bank. Sometimes simple, inexpensive improvements are all you need to keep money in your wallet!

### Turn down the thermostat

The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that for every degree you lower the thermostat for a period of at least eight hours, you can cut your heating bill by 1%.

### Buy a programmable thermostat

If you're looking for something to buy with that home improvement store gift certificate you received during the holidays, consider buying a programmable thermostat. Once you set it, it will automatically turn down the heat while you're out for the day or if you're trying to save energy while working from home. Smart thermostats can send a monthly report that lets you see how much energy you're using.

### Change your furnace filters ...

You should be changing your furnace filters monthly during the heating season to save energy and money. You can set a reminder each month on your calendar.

### ... or buy a reusable one

Although they cost more, reusable filters last longer and may even pay for themselves over time. You can just wash the filter at the beginning of each heating season without having to go to the store.

### Insulate your pipes

If you live in an older home, check your pipes before the first deep freeze of the season. Pipes that are protected from the cold and wind by insulation are less likely to freeze. Buying and installing insulation around vulnerable pipes is much less expensive than repairing or replacing frozen pipes that have cracked.

## Be Prepared ... With TMLP's Winter Storm Safety and Storm Preparations Booklet

TMLP wants customers to be prepared for severe weather, especially during the snowy and cold winter months. Thinking ahead and having the necessary information and supplies can not only provide peace of mind, it can be essential in keeping you safe before, during, and after the storm.

To help customers get ready for whatever winter weather brings our way, TMLP has created "Your Guide to Storm Safety." This handbook provides a checklist for essential items to have on hand, including emergency phone numbers and resources, and how to access local information outlets like cable tv and radio. The handbook also provides information about what customers should do if the power goes out, including how to report an outage and how to safely use a generator. The booklet also contains information about the steps TMLP takes to restore power.

"Your Guide to Storm Safety" is available on the TMLP website <http://www.tmlp.com/pdf/StormSafetyBooklet.pdf>.

Customers can download the booklet and are advised to keep it with other essential storm-related items in the home. Copies of the booklet can also be obtained by calling TMLP at **508-824-6976**.

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



[www.tmlp.com](http://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

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 24-Hour Internet Outage Support

508-880-TMLP (8657)

### Commissioners

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

### General Manager

Kenneth Goulart