

# GPOWER LINE

Georgetown Municipal Light Department

Spring 2017

## Location

Georgetown Light Office  
94 Searle Street  
Georgetown, MA 01833  
Tel: 978-352-5730  
Fax: 978-352-5733

## Customer Service hours

Monday - Thursday  
7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
info@georgetownlight.com

## Emergency number

978-352-5730

## Payment Options

Walk in payment  
94 Searle Street

Payment online  
[www.invoicecloud.com/georgetownlight](http://www.invoicecloud.com/georgetownlight)

Drop Box payment  
Water Dept. parking lot -  
corner of West Main St. and Moulton St.  
Light Dept parking lot at  
94 Searle Street

## Holiday Closings

Memorial Day - May 29th  
Independence Day - July 4th  
If you have an emergency, call  
Georgetown Light at (978) 352-5730.

## Commissioners

John Smolinsky, Chairman  
Peter Dion  
Mark Anderson

## General Manager

David Schofield



## General Manager's Letter



After a cold beginning, the warmer Spring weather has finally arrived. Hopefully, the weather will continue to improve as we enter the months of May and June, which will usher us into the hot summer months.

Spring also brings new growth to our lawns, flower beds, shrubs and trees. We will continue our aggressive tree trimming program to help keep tree limbs and branches from resting on wires, lessening the potential for outages caused by downed wires. The Spring is also a great time to visit the schools with our annual school safety program. This program is designed to educate students about the dangers of electricity as they spend more time out-of-doors during the Summer months.

Although we highlight the advantages of being a public power utility during Public Power Week in October, it's always important to remind our customers that Georgetown Light is owned and operated by you, the customers. As a public power utility, our rates are 2 to 3 cents less than investor owned utilities. We work hard on your behalf to keep our rates as low as possible.

All Georgetown Light customers will see a new bill in June when they receive their May billing statement. This newly-designed bill reflects a new rate structure that enables ratepayers to see the actual charges for distribution costs and energy purchases. Ratepayers should note that the average monthly cost of power has only changed by roughly 1%. The more notable change will be to the appearance of your bill. The new rate restructure will enable the ratepayer to see a better breakdown of the 'All In' cost of power. This is the first time in 18 years that we have restructured the rates. A breakdown of the bill is on the back of this newsletter to help ratepayers better understand the changes.

Dave Schofield,  
General Manager



## To be safe.... Call 8-1-1 and Dig Safe!

Georgetown residents should call Dig Safe® at 8-1-1 before doing any digging this spring.

Massachusetts law requires that anyone who digs must notify utility companies before starting any work through Dig Safe®, a communications network that assists excavators, contractors and property owners by notifying the appropriate utility before any digging begins. State law also requires that the area of excavation must be pre-marked using white stakes, paint or flags before notifying Dig Safe®.

Callers should expect to provide information about the contractor, the work to be done, the location and the scope of the project. Dig Safe assigns a permit number as a confirmation. The utilities then visit the site and identify and mark the location of their underground facilities.

Member utilities use paint, stakes or flags to identify the location of their underground lines. Color codes are used to identify the type of utility:

**Red** – electric

**Yellow** – gas, oil, steam

**Orange** – communications

**Blue** – potable water

**Purple** – reclaimed water

**Green** – sewer/drainage

**Pink** – survey marks

**White** – proposed excavation



Dig Safe® is funded entirely by member utilities like Georgetown Light to promote public safety, protect utility services, and safeguard against property and environmental damages. Massachusetts state law requires advance notice of at least 72 business hours (3 days), excluding weekends and holidays. Please note that 8-1-1 is the only telephone number that should be used.



- A: ACCOUNT NUMBER:** Your account number is used for billing purposes. It allows us to access information pertaining to your account in our computer system.
- B: SERVICE ADDRESS:** The service address refers to the location of the electric service for which the bill has been generated.
- C: READING PERIOD:** The service dates show the date of the current meter reading and that of the previous reading.
- D: NUMBER OF DAYS:** This field refers to the number of days between meter readings. Pay careful attention to this field, as it can vary from month to month.
- E: MULTIPLIER:** The multiplier is used to calculate your usage. The type of meter you have determines your multiplier.
- F: USAGE:** The difference between your current meter reading and your previous meter reading determines your usage. Electric usage is measured in kilowatt-hours (KWH). The usage is then multiplied by the rate per kWh to determine a cost for the electricity used. This total is shown in the summary column.
- G: DEMAND:** Large general service only. A demand charge is made for the maximum quantity of energy used over one 15-minute interval each month. See rate schedules for details.
- H: KW KILOWATT:** The peak usage of real power over one 15-minute interval each month.
- I: CUSTOMER CHARGE:** The customer charge will be charged monthly to each rate class. If there is no energy usage for the billing period, the customer will be charged the Customer Charge, which is the minimum usage.
- J: DISTRIBUTION CHARGE:** The Distribution Charge is a kWh charge applicable to all energy usage customers in all GMLD rate classes and is charged for all kilowatt-hours used during the billing period. The Distribution Charge recovers the cost of Distribution Operation and Maintenance expenses. The Distribution Charge also recovers the Administrative and General Expenses including office salaries, expenses materials, and supplies.
- K: ENERGY CHARGE:** The Energy Charge is a kWh charge applicable to all energy usage of customers in all GMLD's rate classes. The purpose of the energy charge is to adjust electric sales to account for changes in the cost of energy that occur during the year. The energy charge is calculated by determining the average monthly cost of power supply in \$/kWh. The monthly calculation of the Energy Charge is calculated by forecasting the monthly power supply costs for a given month and divide it by the forecast kWh sales. The monthly calculation may also include a true up of energy costs in the months prior to the month which the calculation is being performed. Energy costs will fluctuate during the year and these fluctuations can be recovered through the month which the calculation is being performed.
- L:** This is a kWh charge applicable to all energy usage of customers in all GMLD's rate classes. The purpose of the Capacity/Transmission Adjustment Charge is to adjust the electric sales to account for changes in the cost of Capacity and Transmission that occur

**TOWN OF GEORGETOWN  
MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
94 SEARLE ST  
GEORGETOWN, MASS 01833**

PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH  
PAYMENT AND WRITE YOUR ACCOUNT  
NUMBER ON FRONT OF CHECK.

<b>ACCT. NO</b> 51-1234	<b>DISCOUNT</b> 11.80
<b>AMOUNT DUE</b> 165.80	<b>IF PAID BY</b> 04/18/2017
<b>GROSS AMOUNT</b> 477.60	
<b>AMOUNT PAID</b>	

Make check payable to:  
**GEORGETOWN ELECTRIC**

**BILL DATE:** 03/31/2017

**ELECTRIC SERVICE AT:** 51 MAIN STREET

**JOHN A. SMITH  
51 MAIN STREET  
GEORGETOWN, MA 01833**

NEW BILL

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PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT AND WRITE YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER ON FRONT OF CHECK.

BILLED TO	FOR SERVICE AT	ACCOUNT NO	RATE	BILL DATE
JOHN A. SMITH	51 MAIN STREET	51-1234	1	03/31/2017

READING PERIOD	PREVIOUS READING	PRESENT READING	KWH USED	NO. DAYS
02/21/2017 03/20/2017	123456789	12345	13345	1000

DEMAND KW	KWH	MULTIPLIER	MONTHLY	DETAIL	SUMMARY
0	1000	0.00000	PAYMENTS SINCE LAST BILL		0.00
			BALANCE FORWARD		0.00

<b>I</b> Customer Charge <b>K</b> Distribution Charge <b>N</b> Energy Charge Cap/Trans Adj Chrg Hydro Credit Conservation Charge	<b>J</b> 5.79 <b>L</b> 112.15 <b>M</b> 56.96 7.50 -5.00 0.20
TOTAL TAX	0.00
TOTAL GROSS	177.60
TOTAL DISCOUNT	11.80
TOTAL NET	165.80

NEW BILL

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during the year. The Capacity/Transmission Adjustment Charge is calculated by determining the average monthly cost of Capacity and Transmission in \$/kWh. The monthly calculation of the Capacity/Transmission Adjustment Charge is calculated by forecasting the monthly Capacity and divide it by the forecast kWh sales. Capacity and Transmission costs will fluctuate during the year and these fluctuations can be recovered through monthly adjustments to the Capacity/Transmission Adjustment Charge.

- M: CONSERVATION SERVICE CHARGE (CSC):** Conservation Service Charge represents the cost of conservation programs for the GMLD Customers.
- N : HYD CREDIT (Residential customers only.):** PSY refers to the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY). Contracts between municipal light departments and New York State allow us to buy power from New York at a low rate. The savings is a credit on your bill each month and will vary depending on the amount of power that we receive from PASNY.
- O: DISCOUNT POLICY:** A 10% Discount shall be granted on the Customer and Distribution Charge for all current Residential (A), Small General Services (B) and Municipal (M1) for all payments received through the end of business day at 4:30 p.m. on the 15th of each month. When the 15th of the month falls on a non-business day, the discount shall be in effect through the following business day until 4:30 p.m. No discount allowed on accounts in arrears.

(Business customers only.) **SALES TAX:** State regulations require us to collect sales tax from businesses whose use of electricity is primarily for non-manufacturing purposes (see state guidelines for details to obtain tax exempt status).