

## General Manager's Letter



This summer is certainly different from the summer of 2020. As more of the country begins to open up and businesses are bringing their workers back into the workplace, life is beginning to inch back to some sort of normalcy. At Georgetown

Light, we look forward to welcoming our ratepayers back to our business office.

During the past year, we have continued our mission to keep our costs low while providing everyone with reliable service. These efforts have resulted in lower power costs which have enabled us to keep our rates stable and our service levels high.

This summer, Georgetown Light continues to move forward with green initiatives through the *Georgetown Goes Green* rebate and incentive program. We're well on our way to meeting the greenhouse gas emission mandates set forth in the Commonwealth's climate change legislation enacted earlier this year thanks to programs like our appliance rebate program and the heat pump rebate program which is featured elsewhere in this newsletter. You can find all our rebate and incentive programs on our website [www.georgetownlight.com](http://www.georgetownlight.com).

As electric demand increases and more of our customers are installing residential solar systems and buying EVs, we are upgrading our infrastructure to accommodate higher voltage lines in the Lakeshore Drive area. These upgrades will enhance system reliability and will be beneficial in the event of a power outage, as will our aggressive vegetation management and tree trimming program which continues throughout the summer and fall. This aggressive program ensures that tree limbs and branches are away from our service lines, minimizing the chance of downed lines during severe weather.

Dave Schofield,  
General Manager



## Georgetown Light Upgrades its System



Georgetown Light continues to upgrade its infrastructure to meet the needs of its customers with the conversion of a 4 kV distribution line to a 13.8 kV line in the Lakeshore Drive area. The conversion will increase system capacity and enhance reliability as customer needs change due to rapid technology advances and increasing demand.

The conversion will involve the tying together of two circuits which will enable Georgetown

Light crews to restore power faster by rerouting the lines making repairs easier in the event of an outage. Poles are also being upgraded in the Lakeshore Drive area to accommodate the transformers and wires along Lakeshore Drive.

"The 13 kV circuit is more efficient than the current 4 kV circuit," Georgetown Light General Manager Dave Schofield said. "This higher voltage circuit will enable us to be in a better position as customer demand increases and as more residential solar and electric vehicles are added to the system."

Work on the conversion is expected to be completed later this summer.

## Pay with PayPal or Venmo!

Georgetown Municipal Light Department is making it easier and more convenient for customers to pay their electric bills online through the Invoice Cloud customer portal. Customers can now pay with PayPal and Venmo in addition having the ability to use e-check or Credit/Debit Card.

Customers can make their payment using the one-time payment option without registering or they can make their online payment by creating an account to access additional account information.

Although there is no service fee to make an online payment by using an e-check, there is a fee of \$4.95 for all credit/debit Card, PayPal products and Venmo transactions.

## Georgetown Light Welcomes New Lineworker



Joe Laperchia recently joined Georgetown Light as a Third Class Lineworker. Before joining Georgetown Light, Joe was a Truck Driver - Equipment Operator for the Town of Georgetown for more than four years. Prior to that, he was a Parts Manager at Bobcat of Boston, and a Class A CDL Truck Driver for JRM Hauling & Recycling in Peabody. Joe was also the owner of Laperchia and Son Landscape Construction in Peabody.

A graduate of Peabody High School, Joe holds a 2A/1C Hoisting License and a Class A CDL License.



Georgetown Light helped put flags in the downtown area, one of the department's many community-related programs.



### **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 -  
W Main St at Moulton

Light Dept parking lot at  
94 Searle Street

### **Holiday Closings:**

Monday, July 5 – Independence Day

Monday, September 5 – Labor Day

Monday, October 11 – Columbus Day

If you have an emergency, call  
Georgetown Light at (978) 352-5730.

### **Commissioners:**

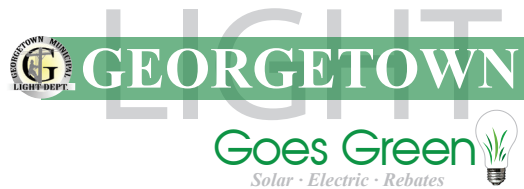
Nick Lawler, Chairman  
Peter Dion  
John Smolinsky

### **General Manager:**

David Schofield



## **Off-Peak EV Charging Incentives**



Georgetown Light offers incentives for EV charging and rebates for charging equipment, including a \$300 rebate to help offset the cost of installing a Wi-Fi capable Level 2 charging unit for higher speed charging.

In addition, the “Dollar a Gallon” off-peak EV charging incentive offers enrolled Georgetown

Light customers who charge their EV during off-peak hours between 10 p.m. and 12 p.m. (next day) on weekdays, a credit of either \$5 (for Level 1 charging) or \$10 (for Level 2 charging) on their electric bill.

Under the “Dollar a Gallon” program, customers who own or lease an EV, whether it is a battery electric vehicle (BEV) that runs exclusively on electricity, or a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) that runs on electricity but can also switch to gas/electric hybrid mode, can sign up to participate in this off-peak program. Customers must also have a residential electric account that is used to charge the EV.

## **2021 Air Source Heat Pump and Ductless Mini-Split Rebates**

Georgetown Light's *Georgetown Goes Green* rebate program includes rebates on the purchase of qualifying ducted air source heat pumps and ductless mini-split heat pumps. To qualify for a rebate through the program, ducted air source heat pumps must have a SEER rating of >19 and a HSPF of >10.5; while ductless mini-split heat pumps must have a SEER of >18, and a HSPF of 10.

The program offers a \$500 rebate on qualifying ducted air source heat pump and a \$100 rebate on a ductless mini-split heat pump with a maximum rebate of \$1000 for two systems.

Rebates are issued per outdoor unit(s), not per indoor units, and are administered by Energy New England.

The program is for residential customers only who reside in Georgetown and own the property on the account for a minimum of six months. The account must be active and in good standing and the system must be installed at the account location. Systems included in a home purchase are not eligible for rebates.

Remember.... qualifying heat pumps must be purchased between 1/1/21 - 12/31/21 and applications must be postmarked by 1/15/22.

Additional application requirements and information are available on the website [www.georgetownlight.com](http://www.georgetownlight.com).

## **Hurricane Season is Here – Be Prepared!**

As the saying goes, it's better to be safe than sorry. Regardless of whether a major hurricane, a tropical storm, or a good old fashioned summer storm bears down on Georgetown, it is better to be prepared.

- Have an emergency kit on hand. You can find most everything you need on the MEMA Emergency checklist: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/build-an-emergency-kit>.
- Make sure that have non-perishable food, drinking water, and pet food as well as first aid supplies and prescriptions.
- Have flashlights, spare batteries, a fully charged cell phone, laptop or tablet in case you lose power.
- If the power does go out, turn your refrigerator/freezer up to the coldest setting to keep food cold, but remember to turn it down to its normal setting when the power is restored.
- If you have a generator, make sure you know how to safely use it. NEVER install or run a generator inside.
- Unplug your electrical and electronic devices such as your TV, microwave, computer, small appliances like your air fryer, etc. that are not plugged into surge protectors. When power is restored, wait a few minutes to plug them back in.
- If there is an outage in the area, Georgetown Light will provide an estimated time of restoration (ETR) on the website, if possible. Visit the website [www.georgetownlight.com](http://www.georgetownlight.com) to sign up for email or phone updates.
- Remember if you see a downed power line, report it by calling (978) 352-5730 or local emergency personnel immediately.
- Stay away from the line and always assume it is live. Always keep your distance and never drive over downed power lines.
- Don't touch anything that may be in contact with downed power lines, such as trees, fences, guardrails, etc.