

# GPOWERR LINE

Georgetown Municipal Light Department

Winter 2020

## General Manager's Letter



With the start of a new year, Georgetown Light begins a new year of rebate and incentive programs. Under

the Georgetown Goes Green initiative, residential customers who make energy conscious decisions by purchasing qualifying appliances, heating systems, electric vehicle chargers, and/or weatherize their homes may be eligible to receive rebates from Georgetown Light. We encourage our customers to take a look at these programs if they are in the market for a new appliance, heating system or car, or if they want to keep their home at a comfortable temperature throughout the year.

A new year also means new resolutions. This is a perfect time to make a resolution to become more aware of how much energy you use in the course of a day. Simple things like opening curtains to let the sun in, shutting off lights when you leave the room, and unplugging chargers when not in use can help you save energy – and money - throughout the year.

And as we begin a new year here at Georgetown Light, we're preparing to say goodbye to our Business Manager Karen Marchand who will retire on February 27th. We wish her well as she begins a new chapter!

*Dave F. Schofield*

Dave Schofield,  
General Manager



## GEORGETOWN

Goes Green   
Solar • Electric • Rebates

Georgetown Light offers exclusive rebates and incentives to customers to help them save money and natural resources. Through this Georgetown Goes Green initiative, Georgetown Light customers may be eligible to receive home energy audits, Energy Star® appliance rebates, electric vehicle incentives, weatherization incentives, heat pump and mini split rebates, and solar rebates.

### Appliance Rebates:

The Energy Star® residential appliance rebate program was expanded in 2019 to include the following rebates:

- \$25 – Smart Wi-Fi Thermostat
- \$25 – Programmable Thermostat (50% up to \$25)
- \$50 – Air Purifier
- \$50 – Dehumidifier
- \$50 – Clothes Washer
- \$50 – Refrigerator (proof of removal required)
- \$500 – Hybrid Water Heater (< 55 gallons)

To be eligible, residential customers must own the property linked to the account, have an electric account in good standing, and reside at the service address for at least six months. The appliance must be Energy Star-certified and must be installed at the address listed on the account. Only one rebate will be given, per account per calendar year.

### Home Energy Audits:

Georgetown Light's Home Energy Audit helps customers save energy in their homes. Customers are encouraged to contact Georgetown Light with questions regarding energy efficiency and conservation. If warranted, arrangements will be made through Energy New England (ENE) to schedule a professional energy adviser to evaluate energy saving potential in specific areas of the home.

After the energy assessment is conducted by the home Energy Advisers, a detailed evaluation and summary report of energy usage based on the assessment will be completed and the findings reviewed for potential energy efficiency improvements and achievable energy savings. The assessment will evaluate a broad range of energy saving opportunities in the home, including appliances, windows and doors, insulation, heating/cooling, and lighting.



## Congratulations Karen Marchand!

Georgetown Light customers are welcome to stop by the 94 Searle Street office from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 27th to congratulate Business Manager Karen Marchand as she retires. Karen is retiring after more than 20 years with Georgetown Light.

We wish Karen a happy and healthy retirement and thank her for her hard work and dedication to all Georgetown Light customers!

An energy assessment is required to participate in the Weatherization Incentive Program.

Call Energy New England at (888) 772-4242 for your free home energy audit.

### Weatherization Incentives:

To receive a weatherization incentive rebate, a home energy assessment must be conducted by Energy New England (ENE) prior to any work being performed. Residents are eligible for an incentive rebate for air sealing and insulation including:

- Duct or heating system pipe
- Attic/basement/rim
- Duct sealing
- Other sealing measures

Eligible projects are those that are recommended by the Home Energy Assessment report from ENE. Incentive rebates of 50% of the cost of the completed work, up to \$500, will be awarded. Incentive rebates are capped at \$500 per customer account, per calendar year.

To receive an incentive rebate, residential customers must reside in and own the property on the account and the account must be active and in good standing.

### Air Source Heat Pump & Ductless Mini-split Rebate Program:

Georgetown Light offers rebates on the purchase of qualifying ducted air source heat pumps and ductless mini-split heat pumps. Qualifying Ducted Air Source Heat Pumps must have a SEER of >19 and a HSPF of >10.5; and ductless mini-split heat pumps must have a SEER of >18, and a HSPF of 10.

The program offers a \$500 rebate on the purchase of a qualifying purchase of a ducted air source heat pump and a \$100 rebate of a ductless mini-split heat pump. Rebates are issued per outdoor unit(s), not per indoor units, and the maximum rebate is \$1000 for two systems.

To qualify, residential customers must reside in and own the property on the account for a minimum of six months and the account must be active and in good standing.

*Continued on page 2*

### **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

Drop Box payment  
Water Dept. parking lot -  
W Main St at Moulton  
Light Dept parking lot at  
94 Searle Street

### **Holiday Closings:**

Monday, February 17 - Presidents' Day  
Monday, April 20 - Patriots Day  
Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day  
If you have an emergency, call  
Georgetown Light at (978) 352-5730.

### **Commissioners:**

John Smolinsky, Chairman  
Nick Lawler  
Peter Dion

### **General Manager:**

David Schofield

## **Welcome to Our New Lineworker**



Georgetown Light recently welcomed First Class Lineworker Chris McCue to the department. Chris comes to Georgetown Light from National Grid where he worked for six years.

Chris resides in Amesbury with his wife Julie and their three children: Max, Cash and Sailor.



*Georgetown Light General Manager Dave Schofield (not pictured) served as Chair of the Town's 2nd annual tree lighting celebration held recently at Harry Murch Park. Joining him on the committee were (from left to right) Mary Janson, Selectman Chair Joseph Bonavita, Jeff Boragine, Pete Durkee of the Georgetown Highway Department, and Georgetown Light representatives Mike Conwell and Mary Snow. In addition to enjoying the tree lighting celebration, many local residents brought a new toy which was given to families in need.*

## **Tree Maintenance to Resume in the Spring**

Georgetown Light is gearing up for its annual tree maintenance program which begins in the spring and continues into the fall. This aggressive preventative maintenance program involves regular tree trimming as well as the removal of dangerous trees and limbs and is crucial to maintaining the reliability of overhead and underground lines. Thanks to these ongoing efforts throughout the community, Georgetown Light has been fortunate to have had a minimal number of downed trees and limbs during previous winters.

*Continued from page 1*

### **Solar Rebate Program:**

Georgetown Light is participating in the Department of Energy Resources (DOER)'s rebate program for the installation of small-scale solar projects in communities like Georgetown that are served by a municipal light plant. Energy New England (ENE) administers the program for Georgetown Light.

DOER and Georgetown Light offer rebates of \$1.20 per watt, up to 50% of system costs for qualified systems. The DOER and Georgetown Light each provide half of the funding for these rebates. Residential installations are capped at 10 kW.

DOER has committed \$2.3 million and Georgetown Light has committed \$10,000 to the program, which will be matched by the DOER.

To be eligible for a rebate, system owners must work with a primary installer/integrator to complete and submit the MLP Solar Program application through ENE. Applicants must first contact ENE for eligibility. Applications will not be processed, or rebates issued, if funds have been expended. Information about the availability of funds can be obtained before submitting a rebate application by contacting Energy New England, the MLP program Administrator, at solar@ene.org or by calling 888-772-4242.

### **Georgetown Drives Electric:**

As part of its Georgetown Drives Electric program, 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, and the "Dollar a Gallon" off-peak EV charging incentive.

The EV charging rebate may be used to pay for a licensed electrician's services, electrical and/or the charging equipment. The rebate provided will be \$300 or the amount of documented, eligible charging system expenditures, whichever is less.

Under the "Dollar a Gallon" program, enrolled Georgetown Light customers who charge their EV between 10 pm and 12 pm (next day) on weekdays can earn either a credit of either \$5 (for Level 1 charging) or \$10 (for Level 2 charging) on your electric bill.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recently announced that it has reestablished the Massachusetts Offers Rebates for Electric Vehicles (MOR-EV) Program for electric vehicles purchased on or after January 1, 2020. This program helps residents save money on the purchase or lease of a qualifying Battery electric (BEV) or plug in hybrid electric (PHEV) with a price under \$50,000. Buyers of fully electric vehicles can claim a rebate of \$2,500; plug-in hybrids must have a minimum all electric range of 25 miles to qualify for a \$1,500 rebate.

### **Information:**

Additional information about all Georgetown Goes Green programs, including documentation required and rebate instructions can be obtained on the website [www.georgetownlight.com](http://www.georgetownlight.com) by clicking on the appropriate rebate or incentive program. The 2020 Georgetown Light programs began on January 1, 2020 and end on December 31, 2020. All completed applications and documentation must be postmarked by January 31, 2021. Rebates are subject to funding availability and can expire at any time.

## **Council on Aging's Senior Community Center**



*Dave Schofield, center, Georgetown Light General Manager, was welcomed by local seniors during his annual electrical safety presentation at the Council on Aging's Senior Community Center. The General Manager and safety expert Ray Gouley talked to the seniors about how to stay safe in their homes, not only during the winter months, but throughout the year. (photo credit: Ray Gouley)*