

Watts & Drops

Newsletter of the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments

December 2017

State Gives LWD Approval to Test New Well Site

Littleton Water Department has received state approval to begin the next step toward developing three new bedrock wells at the Cobbs Well site on the southeastern edge of town. LWD is pursuing new water sources to meet the growing demand of commercial and residential development.

The Mass. Department of Environmental Protection last month issued the approval to conduct pump testing to evaluate the impact of establishing the new well on area water resources. The testing will occur after June 1 next year.



3 Families Enjoy Turkey Dinners Thanks to LELWD Employees

LELWD's employees contributed to Thanksgiving gift baskets for three local families in need of a helping hand this holiday season. Bushel baskets filled with canned pumpkin and green beans, roasting tins, fresh squash, stuffing, gravy, rolls and other items for the perfect Thanksgiving feast were delivered to two recipients in Littleton and one in Boxborough.

The baskets were so heavy it took two employees to carry each one. The annual gift baskets are a holiday tradition dating back decades, and show LELWD's employees care about the communities they serve.

Green Rewards Lower Customer Costs



The Green Rewards program helps LELWD residential customers lower their water and electric bills with discounts and rebates on energy- and water-saving products. The program, entering its third year, is a priority for LELWD which recently created the position of energy efficiency engineer to manage and expand it.

As of early December, LELWD residential customers had saved more than \$20,000 in rebates on Energy Star-rated appliances, heating and cooling systems, and smart irrigation controllers. Also, 117 residents purchased discounted LED lights and 61 residents received free energy audits.

The goal of Green Rewards is to help customers not only save money, but use less

of the resources provided by LELWD. This can help customers lower their electric and water bills, and reduce the environmental impact of the two utilities.

For example, Green Rewards offers a \$50 rebate on professionally installed smart irrigation controllers. These high-tech controllers can be operated from a smartphone and control outdoor watering based on weather forecasts and time of day. While actual savings will vary, the manufacturers claim the controllers can significantly reduce water usage and bills.

The Green Rewards Program is managed by the new energy efficiency engineer, Connor Reardon, a Littleton native. Among Connor's responsibilities is to expand the program and develop and implement plans for energy efficiency measures for both residential and commercial customers.

Street Lights Now Energy-Saving LED

Littleton and Boxborough street lights are now all energy-efficient LED fixtures. LELWD crews finished the installations on town-owned lights earlier this year, funded by two state grant programs.

In Littleton, about 200 new LED light fixtures were installed this year, following about 400 street lights upgraded in 2016. These changes will save about 89,000 kilowatt hours annually, or about enough to power 9 homes for a year.

The new LED fixtures on Littleton streets were one project funded by a state Green Communities grant. LELWD also used the grant funds to install variable frequency drive pumps at a water treatment plant and



upgrade exterior lighting on some public buildings.

In Boxborough, crews replaced 31 town-owned street lights with a grant from the state Department of Energy Resources. With the new LED fixtures, Boxborough is expected to conserve 12,365 kilowatt hours per year.

Earlier this year, Littleton received a \$250,000 Green Communities grant, one of 72 municipalities to receive the funds intended to support clean energy projects.



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Winter Wonderland

LELD crews in bucket trucks strung the lights the week before the Annual Commons Holiday Tree Lighting event on December 3. Hundreds of people filled the Common to watch Santa Claus flip the giant switch on the lights. The annual event is cosponsored by LELWD, the Littleton Rotary Club and the Littleton Highway Department, with a special thank you to Littleton Fire Department for providing transportation to Mr. Claus.

