

Paxton Light Newsletter

Spring 2022

AMI Meters

Due to supply chain issues PMLD was not able to start installing the Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI meters) last spring. PMLD began installing the meters in late January. We estimate all meters to be replaced by the end of the year.

Utilizing AMI meters, PMLD will be better able to track and manage customer energy usage, improve data quality, detect power outages, theft and tampering, and improve business operations. Advancing our technology will provide us the flexibility needed to move into the future.



Appliances

Air Purifier Room Air Cleaner \$40 Clothes Washer \$40 Clothes Dryer (Electric) \$50

Dehumidifier \$30

Refrigerator \$50 WiFi Thermostat HVAC Control 50% max, up to \$125 Induction Range (Replace gas/propane) \$500 Induction Range (Replace electric) \$100

Heat Pump Dryer Electric \$500 Heat Pump Water Heater \$500 Heat Pump Pool Heater \$250 Pool Pumps Up to \$250

Heating Cooling Central AC \$250 Air Source Heat Pump Up to \$500 Ground Source Heat Pump \$500 Mini-Split Heat Pumps Single Zone \$300 Multi Zone \$500

Home Efficiency Blower Door Test & Air Sealing 50%, up to \$500 ENERGY STAR rated Heating System 50%, up to \$500 Duct Sealing 50%, up to \$500

Insulation 50%, up to \$500

New Rebates

Rechargeable Battery Lawn Mower \$100

Rechargeable Battery Snow Blower \$100 Rechargeable Battery Hedge Trimmer \$40 Rechargeable Battery Pressure Washer \$40

Rechargeable Battery Rototiller \$40

Rechargeable Battery Chain or Pole Saw \$40 Rechargeable Battery Leaf Blower \$25 Rechargeable Battery String Trimmer \$25

**Energy audits & appliance rebates are available through NextZero.org or by calling (888) 333-7525 or direct at (413) 308-1311

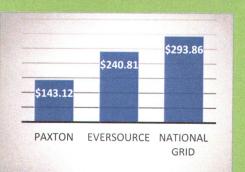


RATE COMPARISONS

The charts are based on December 2021 data.

The chart to the left is for a residential customer consuming 500kWh/month.

The one on the right is for a residential customer consuming 1000 kWh/month.



Fiber Survey Results

In the fall of 2021, PMLD sent out a survey to gauge the demand and interest for residential high-speed internet service through municipally owned fiber. PMLD received 870 responses, 54% of the surveys mailed out. 94.3% said they felt that low-cost, high-speed fiber internet is important to the future of our local community. 93% currently have Charter internet, of which 55.5% are dissatisfied with their service. 90.5% would be interested in alternative internet service if it were available, of which 64% would be very likely to subscribe to a new service if it were lower in cost. Respondents felt that reliability, availability, speed and value are the most important criteria needed in internet service.

The full results of the survey can be found on our website.

Why Fiber to the Home?

The most reliable and efficient way to deliver high-speed internet is over fiber. Fiber, literally glass fibers about the diameter of a human hair, transmits data at speeds far exceeding current DSL, cable, or dial-up speeds. The same fiber providing your broadband is also capable of simultaneously delivering voice and video services to you, in addition to video streaming.

A fiber connected town would create an advantage for the community over a non-connected town. As high-speed internet connections become more and more important for both residents and businesses, planning for the community's future needs is crucial. With few upgrades needed, a fiber network is easily capable of providing gigabit speeds greater than what is currently available. By operating its own fiber broadband network as a utility, PMLD would be able to set and control costs and services while giving residents a voice in cost and content.

Next Steps

PMLD is continuing to explore the possibility of bringing fiber to the Town of Paxton. An outside consulting firm will be engaged to conduct a feasibility study providing models for the build out and operation as well as financial projections.

PMLD News:

New Employees PMLD would like to welcome 2 new employees:

Benjamin Smith: Ben was previously employed by the Holden Municipal Light Department as the Forestry Foreman.

Thomas Donahue: TJ attended the Southeast Lineman Training Center completing their Electrical Lineworker Program and was previously employed at Loughlin Electric as an Apprentice.

Promotions

PMLD would like to congratulate Timothy White on his new role as General Foreman. Tim has worked at PMLD for 15 years, starting as a Groundman and working his way up to GF in September 2021.

In Remembrance

We'd like to take a moment to honor the memory of Harold Smith. Harold started at PMLD in 1964 as a 1st Class Lineman. He took over as General Manager in 1976, retiring **from PMLD in 1998**.

FUN FACTS



Since the installation of the electric vehicle charger at Anna Maria College, the greenhouse gas emissions avoided are equivalent to 62 trees being planted that have grown for 10 years.



PMLD's power portfolio is 61% non-carbon emitting. This puts Paxton ahead of the states new Decarbonization Roadmap that requires light departments have a power portfolio that consists of at least 50% non-carbon emitting resources by the year 2030.

PMLD General Information

Payment Options:

- Online: www.paxtonlight.com
- By Phone (508) 756-9508
- Mail: PO Box 812 Reading, MA 01867
- Dropboxes:
 - -Outside PMLD along driveway
 - -Carlos Marketplace

Customer Service Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4 pm cs@paxtonlight.com

Commissioners:

Emerson Wheeler, III, Chair Michael Benoit, Vice Chair Yvette M. Orell, Clerk

General Manager:

Tara Rondeau