

## Home Energy Audits

PMLD offers FREE home energy audits to all homeowners in Paxton. A professional energy advisor, 3<sup>rd</sup> party company, will come to your home, examine your current energy consumption, and help identify energy efficiency measures that you can take to make your home more efficient. The energy auditor will determine where your home is losing the most energy and will propose the improvements you can make to help save energy, improve the comfort of your home, and reduce your utility bills. This includes insulation, energy efficient appliances, heating and cooling, efficient lighting, windows, door weather stripping and/or replacement. To schedule a FREE home energy audit, call 888-333-7525.

Considering a heat pump for your home? Schedule a FREE heat pump assessment. PMLD customers can get free expert advice and assistance with choosing a system that is best suited for your home. An independent heat pump expert will explain how the technology works, how it lowers your home heating costs, and will guide you on the proper heat pump size and configuration to optimize your heating and cooling goals and avoid purchasing an oversized or undersized system. To schedule a FREE heat pump assessment, call 888-333-7525.

## RATE COMPARISONS



February 2024: residential customer consuming 500 kWh/month.

**Have fun  
and stay  
safe this  
summer....**

- ❖ Never allow children to play on or around electrical equipment or lines, climb utility poles, pad mount transformers, or trees that are growing into the power lines.
- ❖ Kite flying can be a great way to pass time on a windy day. To stay safe, never fly a kite near power lines. Call us if your kite gets stuck in power lines, never try to remove it yourself.
- ❖ Keep mylar or foil balloons weighted down. If they get caught up in the power lines, their metallic surface can cause widespread power outages because of their electrical conduction properties.
- ❖ Everyone loves a good yard sale but posting signs on utility poles is dangerous and illegal. The staples and nails can snag a linemen's clothing causing a fall or puncture their rubber gloving exposing them to the risk of electrocution and creating a potentially life-threatening safety hazard.

## Landscaping? Be power-wise when you plant!

Planning a new look for your yard? If so, please consider the location of your utility equipment before you start planting:

- Call 811 before digging. Careless digging near or around pad mounted transformers could cause not only service interruptions but also cause severe or fatal electrical shock.
- Leave enough space around your meter and electrical equipment to allow for easy service access.
- Don't plant trees that will grow up into the power lines. Select a site for them away from wires.
- Pad mount transformers "green boxes" are part of the underground distribution system, serving the same purpose as transformers on utility poles. They need 4' of clearance on all sides to allow for air circulation to keep the equipment inside the box from overheating.
  - Avoid planting bushes or trees within 9' of the pad mounted transformer. Roots could damage the underground wires.
  - Do not put boulders in front of the equipment or fence in the pad mount transformers. This creates more work for the linemen and makes restoring power more difficult and time consuming.
  - Please know that flowers may be trampled if planted too closely to any equipment.





# SAVING ENERGY

## Spring Energy Tips

- ❖ Doing some spring cleaning? Don't forget your refrigerator coils. It won't run efficiently when the coils are dirty, so clean the coils, and dust behind and underneath the refrigerator itself.
- ❖ Check your refrigerator gasket (the rubber seal around the inside of the door) for breaks or cracks to ensure cold air isn't escaping allowing warm air in and forcing your compressor to work harder to maintain a cool temperature.
- ❖ Get your air conditioner ready for the season. Routinely replacing or cleaning air filters can lower your cooling system's energy consumption.
- ❖ Replace old dehumidifiers with energy efficient ones.
- ❖ Install and set a programmable thermostat to a slightly higher temperature when you're not at home and program it to cool down to your optimum comfort before returning home.
- ❖ Seal air leaks around windows, doors and cracks to prevent indoor air to escape and outdoor air to get in.
- ❖ Change the direction of your ceiling fan to rotate counterclockwise pushing the cool air down to ease up on the AC.
- ❖ Clean your sliding glass door track. Dirt and grit in the track can ruin the seal and create gaps where air can escape.

## PMLD News:

### REBATES

PMLD is now processing all rebates in house. Applications can be found on the PMLD website. Return the application and required paperwork to the light dept. Rebates under \$100 will be credited to your account. A check will be issued for any rebates over \$100.

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOC. ELECTED BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Representing the Paxton rate payers and the interests of public power, the General Manager, Tara Rondeau, sits on the following boards:

- MMWEC Board of Directors
- MEAM Executive Committee, VP
- MMWEC Auditing Committee, Chair
- NEPPA By-Law Committee
- NYPA Committee



## Battery Energy Storage System

PMLD has partnered with Delorean Power LLC to install a 3MW/9 MWh battery energy storage system at the substation. The battery will be utilized at times of high demand to lower PMLD's peak consumption providing savings on our transmission and capacity costs.

Transmission costs are determined by a one hour "peak" each month as determined by ISO New England to be the regions highest hour of electric generation. PMLD is billed for our transmission costs based on our contribution to that one hour. This hour is typically between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. and generally occurs as solar production declines.

Capacity costs are based on the one-hour annual peak for the region. PMLD makes a capacity payment each month for twelve months based on our contribution to this single highest hour of electric generation in New England.

### Payment Options:

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

### PMLD General Information

#### Customer Service Hours:

Monday-Friday  
8:00 am - 4 pm  
[cs@paxtonlight.com](mailto:cs@paxtonlight.com)

#### Commissioners:

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

#### General Manager:

Tara Rondeau