

# Watts & Drops

Newsletter of the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments

June 2018

## LELD Recognized for Reliability

The Littleton Electric Light Department has received national recognition for achieving exceptional electric reliability for customers in 2017 by the American Public Power Association, a trade group that represents more than 2,000 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities.

In 2017, LELD customers were without service for an average of about 30 minutes, excluding major events such as snowstorms. By comparison, the average outage time for all U.S. electric utilities is 129 minutes per year.

"This recognition is a testament to the hard work of our staff to ensure that the lights stay on for all our customers in Littleton and Boxborough," said Scott Edwards, LELWD's general manager.

## Customers Can Sign Up for Free Shade Trees

LELWD is once again offering free shade trees to residents of Littleton and Boxborough through the Green Rewards Program.

Shade trees provide natural cooling for houses in the summer and consume carbon dioxide in the air. Customers can request shade trees at [www.lelwd.com/greenrewards/trees](http://www.lelwd.com/greenrewards/trees) or at the LELWD office, 39 Ayer Road, Littleton.

The first 100 applications will be accepted; there is a limit of two trees per customer. The application deadline is Aug. 14.



## Customers Asked to Conserve Water & Follow Restriction on Outdoor Use

With lower than average rainfall in recent weeks, the Littleton Water Department is asking residents to follow a temporary, but mandatory water conservation program. LWD appreciates all efforts to comply with this program, which is designed to ensure a sustainable drinking water supply while also protecting natural resources and streamflow for aquatic life.

Outdoor water use is prohibited between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. until further notice. The

restriction includes irrigation of lawns via sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems, washing of vehicles except in a commercial car wash, and washing of any exterior building or landscape surfaces. Intentional violation of this mandatory water conservation program may result in fines of up to \$400.

Residents interested in receiving updates, including information about water restrictions, can enroll in the Community Notification System at [www.lelwd.com](http://www.lelwd.com).

## Design Started on Third Water Treatment Plant

With the approval of Littleton Town Meeting, the Littleton Water Department has partnered with the engineering firm Tighe and Bond to design the system's third water treatment and filtration plant. The new facility will be located at the Whitcomb Avenue well site and construction is scheduled to begin next spring and be completed one year later.

The construction of the Whitcomb Avenue treatment plant will result in all LWD water being fully treated. The Whitcomb Avenue site produces clean and drinkable water and is currently treated with the addition of disinfection and corrosion-control additives. The additional treatment will provide other benefits, including the removal of minerals responsible for discoloring the water and staining plumbing fixtures and laundry.

In addition to the new treatment plant at Whitcomb Avenue, LWD plans to increase output from the site by installing new wells to replace the existing wells that no longer achieve the necessary water volumes.



## LELD Linemen Excel in Skills Competition

LELD Apprentice Lineman R.J. Rooks (pictured) won first place in the Street Light Changeout Competition as part of the Linemen Rodeo Competition sponsored by the Northeast Public Power Association. The rodeo draws linemen from public power suppliers across the Northeast to test their skills in events such as the Hurt Man Rescue, Transformer Changeout, House Service Changeout, Transition Climb, Cutout Changeout, Fall Protected Climb, Dead-end Insulator Changeout, Single Arm Changeout, Bucket Rescue, and Street Light Changeout. Rooks was joined by colleagues Brian Siekman and Jackson Lizotte. All three competed in the events and scored extremely well, with Lizotte placing second in the Bucket Rescue event.



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## Commitment to Community

LELWD is committed to giving back and partnering with local organizations to support the community. This spring, LELWD welcomed 250 guests at its 27th Annual Senior Luncheon. Working with the Littleton Sustainability Committee, LELWD offered a discounted rain barrel program that will help reduce the use of public water supply for gardening and save homeowners money by capturing runoff from their roof. Russell Street School 4th graders toured LELWD's facility recently and learned about electrical safety and water conservation. Also, this spring, LELWD participated in the Littleton Parks, Recreation and Community Education's 10th Annual Touch-a-Truck event.