



# Rowley Light Beacon

## Lighting Up Our Community

RMLP Quarterly Newsletter ~ Winter 2025

### Manager's Letter



Happy holidays! It's hard to believe that another year has ended, and a new one is beginning. The past year has been a busy one here at RMLP. Our line crews were part of mutual aid efforts in April and October to help restore power in Maine, Georgia, and Florida; our crews were instrumental in several construction projects

throughout the town; and we made great progress on the new power transformer at the substation off Daniels Road on Powerhouse Lane. And let's not forget the great things that our staff did in the community: the Vehicle Night at the Pine Grove Elementary School sponsored by the Rowley Public Library, the visits to the Rowley Senior Center and the Pine Grove School, and the hundreds of strands of holiday light that RMLP crews hung in preparation for the December 7th Lights on the Common.

With the dawn of a new year comes cold temperatures, wintery weather, and shorter days. That also means that we're staying indoors, which means that the lights – and our heating systems - are on for longer periods of time. And since it's the time of year that many people reflect on the past and set a goal to make improvements for the upcoming year, wouldn't it be great if one of those goals would be to make a conscious effort to conserve energy!

If you're thinking of making energy improvements in your home, consider having a free energy assessment through our partnership with Energy New England. You'll find out what energy efficient measures you can take to lower your energy costs throughout the year. Don't forget about the rebates and incentives we offer to residential customers whose accounts qualify when they buy an ENERGY STAR rated appliance, and/or heating and cooling system. We also have electric yard equipment rebates! Look on our website [www.rmlp.org](http://www.rmlp.org) for more information.

As we close out 2024, I would like to also take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year!

Matt Brown

*General Manager*

### RMLP Crews Answer the Call for Mutual Aid



As a member of the American Public Power (APPA) and Northeast Public Power Association (NEPPA) Mutual Aid response teams, RMLP was one of many municipal light departments that provided mutual aid to areas in Georgia and Florida that were affected by Hurricanes Helene and Milton in October.

RMLP General Manager Matt Brown, Working Foreman Sean LaBelle, and Lineworker Jeff Valley joined NEPPA crews in Sylvania, Georgia to help repair damage to the lines caused by Hurricane Helene. Following their return to Rowley, Line Superintendent Mark Anderson and Lineworker Brian Herdman went to Orlando, Florida where they assisted their public power utility counterparts in restoring power after Hurricane Milton.



# The 2025 RMLP Energy Savers Calendar is Here!

Customers are reminded to pick up the 2025 RMLP Energy Savers Calendar at RMLP, Rowley Town Hall, Rowley Public Library, and the Rowley Senior Center. The free calendar provides energy saving strategies and tips to save electricity throughout the year.



*Get yours while supplies last!*

## Tree Trimming

Vegetation management, better known as tree trimming, is an important part of the overall tree maintenance program at RMLP. The program identifies dead or diseased trees, as well as tree limbs and heavy branches that could bring down electric wires during severe weather or windy conditions. The need for such a program is especially important this year since recent drought conditions may have impacted some trees.

## Power Transformer

RMLP is making progress on the power transformer at the substation off Daniels Road on Powerhouse Lane. Virginia Transformer Corporation has been contracted to build the power transformer to replace the aging infrastructure at the Powerhouse Lane Substation. The 23-13.8 kV 12/16/20 MVA unit is scheduled to be delivered in the fall of 2025 and energized in January 2026.

## Lighting up the Holidays!

RMLP helped make the holidays bright by putting up the lights on the gazebo and trees along the Common in preparation for the annual Lights on the Common on December 7th. The event, sponsored by the Girl Scouts, featured the traditional lighting of the tree donated by Jeff and Cory Head of Chickadee Hill Farms, along with caroling and refreshments.



## Good Neighbor Energy Fund



RMLP is a proud sponsor of the Salvation Army's Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund and its annual "Give the Gift of Warmth" campaign. General Manager Matt Brown is among the 20 local energy company representatives who serve on the Good Neighbor Energy Fund committee.

Look for your "Give the Gift of Warmth" envelope in an upcoming RMLP bill to make a tax-deductible donation to help keep those in need warm this winter.



[www.rmlp.org](http://www.rmlp.org)

**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Holidays:**  
Monday, January 20, 2025  
Monday, February 17, 2025

**General Manager:**  
Matt Brown

**Board of Light Commissioners:**  
Chair, Rosamond Danby Whitmore  
Clerk, Bryan DiPersia  
Member, Mark Cousins





# Rowley Light Beacon

## Lighting Up Our Community

RMLP Quarterly Newsletter ~ Fall 2024

### Manager's Letter



***It's hard to believe that summer is nearly over and that we are publishing our second Rowley Light Beacon!***

This has been a hot and humid summer, with extended periods of high humidity. Unfortunately,

we are on track to have more hot days as we face the effects of global warming in future years. That's why it is so important to help reduce the load on our electric system by curbing your energy consumption when a peak is predicted. RMLP makes it easy to help us with the Reduce the Peak through the alerts we post on our website and Facebook page. Make sure to check our website when extreme weather conditions are expected and be sure to follow us on Facebook.

Our first edition in the spring focused on who we are and what we do. We also provided a brief introduction to our newer residents about our unique status as a public power utility. The month of October is Energy Awareness Month, and within the month is Public Power Week which runs from October 6th through the 12th. Like the other 2,000 public power electric utilities in 49 states and five US territories, we're taking the opportunity to highlight what makes us special! You'll find out what we're talking about in the newsletter.

Finally, thank you to all the people who take the time to acknowledge the work our line crews and staff do in the community during the year. If you have any questions, concerns, or if you just want to let us know how we're doing, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone at 978-948-3992, or by email through our website <https://rmlp.org>.

Matt Brown  
General Manager

### We Excel in Reliability!



RMLP has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Reliability from the American Public Power Association for significantly exceeding the five-year average for all U.S. electric utilities for reliable electric service. RMLP measures and tracks its power outages and restorations against national benchmarks as a participant in APPA's e-Reliability Tracker service.

### Public Power Week

**October 6 - October 12**

RMLP is joining 2,000 other community-powered, not-for-profit electric utilities in celebrating Public Power Week throughout the week of October 6th through 12th.

Why are we celebrating? Because we're community owned; our customers – our ratepayers - are included in making key decisions about our energy future. We take pride in having an elected local governing board, our Board of Light Commission, who you elect to represent you.

We're celebrating because RMLP works only for Rowley. We're committed to ensuring reliable, affordable, sustainable, and customer-focused service to our community for many years to come by working with customers and community leaders to make sure our utility reflects the long-term goals and needs of our community. Knowing our community and its needs helps us keep homes, schools, businesses, and public places powered year-round.

And we're celebrating because as a not-for-profit public power utility, our loyalty is to our customers – not stockholders. We work hard to continue to provide cost-effective, reliable electricity along with energy-saving and cost-saving rebates and incentives.



***We're your hometown,  
community-owned,  
public power utility!***

**PUBLIC  
POWER**

**AN AMERICAN TRADITION THAT WORKS**

# RMLP Energy Savers Calendar



Be on the lookout for our 2025 Energy Savers Calendar, which provides energy saving strategies and tips to save electricity throughout the year. This free calendar will be available in October at RMLP, Rowley Town Hall, Rowley Public Library, and Rowley Senior Center.

Last year, RMLP issued a Rowley Energy Challenge to residents to reduce electric consumption by making energy efficient changes in local homes and businesses. Customers are encouraged to take on a new challenge and track their progress against their previous year's average. Visit RMLP website for more information.



## RMLP Residential EnergyStar Appliance and Air Source Heat Pump & Mini-Split Rebates

Residential customers can take advantage of RMLP energy and money-saving Incentive and Rebate Programs with Energy New England Conserve.

### EnergyStar Appliance and Air Source Heat Pump & Mini-Split Rebates

Clothes Washer A/C	\$50
Dehumidifier	\$25
Heat Pump Dryer	\$150
Heat Pump/Hybrid Water Heater	<55 gal – \$300; >55 gal – \$100
Air Source Heat Pump	\$500
Induction Electric Range	\$200
Programmable Thermostat	\$25

Rebates are available for residential accounts/addresses only. Purchase(s) must be made within the rebate application year.

We also offer rebates on Electric Lawn Equipment rebates as well as free Home Energy Assessments. For more information, visit our website, or call Energy New England at 888-772-4242.

RMLP General Manager Matt Brown visited Rowley Senior Center in the spring to talk to residents about electrical safety and energy conservation with safety consultant Ray Gouley. This annual program enables local seniors to learn ways to save energy while staying safe in their homes.

# Vehicle Night



The Rowley Municipal Light Plant participated in the recent Vehicle Night at the Pine Grove Elementary School in Rowley. Vehicle Night was sponsored by the Rowley Public Library as a wrapup to the Summer Reading program.

Line Superintendent Mark Anderson, Working Foreman Sean LaBelle, and Lineworkers Jeff Valley, Den Morrison, and Brian Herdman were on hand to welcome the attendees and answer questions about the RMLP.



Line worker Jeff Valley welcomed Jameson Valley as he sat in one of the RMLP trucks at the Vehicle Night.





# Rowley Light Beacon

## *Lighting Up Our Community*

RMLP Quarterly Newsletter ~ Spring 2024

### *Manager's Letter*



*Welcome to the Beacon, Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant's new quarterly newsletter!*

Our inaugural issue is designed

to introduce, or reintroduce, customers to RMLP, along with who we are, what it means to be a public power electric utility, and what we do in and about the community. In subsequent issues, we'll provide information about our programs and services, as well as ways to save energy throughout the year.

As the General Manager, I am excited to open the doors to the utility by giving customers a look at the things that we tend to take for granted. Things like how we maintain the system so that we provide reliable service to our customers, how our line crews repair lines and restore power to our own customers and as part of the mutual aid system, and how we promote electrical safety to customers of all ages. It's important that we also put names to the faces of RMLP, too!

If you have any questions, concerns, or if you just want to let us know how we're doing, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone at 978-948-3992, or by email through our website <https://rmlp.org>.

Matt Brown

*General Manager*

### *Thank you, Rowley!*

RMLP recently reached out to customers with a survey to help the utility learn about how we're doing, and what we can do better to meet the needs of our customers. Customers who provided their email address, as well as those who stopped by the RMLP office, completed the survey during the two-week response time.

The 12-question survey asked customers to rate their satisfaction regarding reliability, service and value, and customer service, whether they participated in RMLP's energy rebates and incentive opportunities, how they would like to receive information going forward about things like reduce the peak alerts, and whether they would like additional and optional energy efficiency opportunities in the future.

A total of 278 responses were received, with an overwhelming majority rating their service and interaction with RMLP as highly satisfied with a 98% satisfactory rating! RMLP will take the survey results and continue to listen to our ratepayers and look at ways to improve and expand opportunities to meet the needs of our customers.



*Survey Results*

### *Who are we?*

Founded in 1910, Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant is one of only 41 municipal light departments in Massachusetts. As a public power electric utility, RMLP is a community-owned, not-for-profit electric utility that is owned by its customers – the ratepayers – who elect a three-member Board of Light Commissioners to govern on their behalf. Being a public power utility also means RMLP delivers high quality and reliable service, strong customer service, and affordable rates. It also means that RMLP is a part of the community, supporting charitable, educational and beautification programs.

# RMLP Responded to the Call for Mutual Aid



RMLP lineworkers joined Mutual Aid crews from Littleton, Hudson, Wakefield, Concord, Reading, Middleborough, and Wellesley, in early April to help restore power to approximately 180,000 Central Maine Power customers as part of the Northeast Public Power Association (NEPPA) Mutual Aid network.

The early April nor'easter brought heavy wet snow and high winds to the Portland area where RMLP and NEPPA crews worked to restore power caused by downed trees and branches.

In 2023, RMLP was recognized by the American Public Power Association (APPA) and New Hampshire Electric Co-op for being a part of the mutual aid and restoration efforts.



RMLP Working Foreman, Sean LaBelle, visited with Pine Grove School students during the recent educational safety program conducted at the school by safety consultant Ray Gouley for RMLP. The students learned about electrical safety, including how to be safe around outlets, appliances, and power lines, as well as how to be safe while playing outdoors as the weather gets warmer. The students also got an up-close look at the equipment used by RMLP lineworkers.

## Did You Know Rmlp Offers Rebates For Electric Yard Equipment?

RMLP and Energy New England are offering new rebates and incentives to ratepayers who purchase qualifying Electric Yard Equipment. Our goal is to promote electrification and reduce carbon emissions.

Hedge Trimmer .....	\$25	Rototiller .....	\$40
Leaf Blower .....	\$25	Push Lawn Mower .....	\$100
String Trimmer & Hedger .....	\$25	Riding Lawn Mower .....	\$200
Chain & Pole Saw .....	\$40	Zero-Turn Riding Lawn Mower ..	\$200
Pressure Washer .....	\$40		

For more details and questions about the rebate program, call Energy New England (ENE) at 1-888-772-4242.

## RMLP's Rowley Energy Challenge

Rowley residents participated in the Rowley Energy Challenge issued by the utility in 2023 to reduce electric consumption by making energy efficient changes in local homes and businesses. Customers were able to see the progress compared to the previous year's residential customer average of 722 kWh per month.

This is a great way for all of us to win the Rowley Energy Challenge!



[www.rmlp.org](http://www.rmlp.org)

**Hours:**  
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Holidays:**  
Wednesday, June 19, 2024  
Thursday, July 4, 2024  
Monday, September 2, 2024

**General Manager:**  
Matt Brown

**Board of Light Commissioners:**  
Chair, Rosamond Danby Whitmore  
Clerk, Bryan DiPersia  
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