



**WINDSTORM FEBRUARY 25 2019**

Here is a small sample from our Facebook feed during the outages of February 25 and 26. Our crews really appreciated the kind words from so many customers.



**Westfield Gas + Electric**

February 26 at 8:11 AM · 🌐

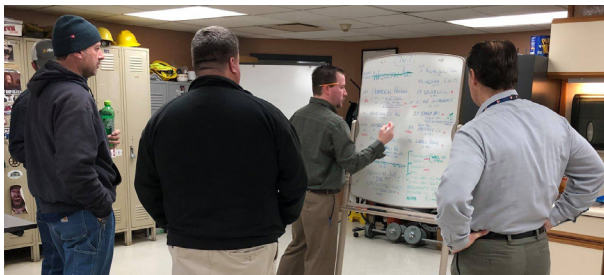
Scenes from an outage. Please see previous post for specific locations which are still being addressed. While timing is hard to pin down, we expect to have all services up later today. WG+E crews with extra support from [Chicopee Electric Light](#) and [Town of Wallingford Electric Division](#), [City of Westfield - Government DPW](#), and our tree contractors are all coffeed ☕ up and at full force. Thank you for your support and patience.

Thanks so much. Our power was restored about 4 a.m. and I just had some nice hot soup and am warming up. Wish I could give some to all your crews working out there in the cold. We appreciate their hard work.

[Julianne Antunovich](#) Thank you for the UPDATES! Grateful to all who are working so hard to ensure that everyone has power! 😊



Love · Reply · Message



Morning meeting to get crews where they need to be.



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

April is National Safe Digging Month and we want to get the word out! One easy call gets your utility lines marked and helps protect you from injury and expense. Make a call to 811 at least three days before any digging project. It's free!

**WG+E**

WESTFIELD GAS + ELECTRIC

Customer Service: (413) 572-0100  
Emergency Response: (413) 572-0000

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

spring  
2019



**powerline**



WESTFIELD GAS + ELECTRIC



PHOTO CREDIT: D. Nason

springing into spring

As the City of Westfield gears up to celebrate its 350th anniversary, Westfield Gas + Electric will turn 120 years old on June 1st.

We were saddened at the loss of our Ward 3 Municipal Light Board Commissioner Jane Wensley, who was a great representative of her constituents, well respected at WG+E, and also actively involved in planning the Westfield 350 activities that will enrich our community

over the next several months. Please remember Jane and her family as you enjoy the 350 activities she played a part in bringing to us.

The WG+E is a part of the fabric of Westfield and today, with Whip City Fiber (WCF), we are helping to move our community (and some which surround us) into the future. The success of Whip City Fiber has been astonishing and the efforts put forth to make it available to over 70% of the homes in Westfield are extraordinary. Now, with WG+E/WCF providing expertise and guidance, twenty other hilltown communities have a plan for high-speed internet access where none has existed before. All costs for the hilltown projects are paid by the towns with support from the state. Future revenue streams from the communities that choose WCF as their internet service provider will enable us to keep our rates low and fund further expansion within Westfield.

And speaking of extraordinary efforts, while some of our customers may have had no impact from the windstorm of February 25th, there were quite a few areas within Westfield that were hit with fallen trees, blocked roadways, and downed wires due to the sustained high winds. Our crews did a commendable job during the height of the event, through the night and into the next day to restore all services. In these situations, it's "all hands on deck," a response we prepare for through training, drills, and mutual aid agreements with other

utilities. Employees from virtually all areas step in to fill any roles needed to expedite restoration efforts.

Now we look to the arrival of warmer days, softer ground, and the start of construction season. WG+E gas crews will be working in the areas off Orange Street, including Kellogg, Lincoln, and Belmont Streets to replace 3,400' of cast iron main and associated bare steel services as part of our Cast Iron Abandonment Program. Additional cast iron gas mains are scheduled to be replaced on Western Avenue and Western Circle, as well. On the electric side of the house, WG+E is required to remove and relocate a power line situated in a right-of-way owned by the Springfield Water Works. This project will require the replacement of 80 utility poles and the installation of over two miles of high-voltage wire along Shaker Road. Finally, customers in select areas serviced by underground utilities who have been patiently waiting for Whip City Fiber will be hearing from us soon to schedule their appointments now that the ground is starting to thaw.

Happy Spring!

Tony Contrino  
General Manager

P.S. Check out WG+E's history of great rates below!

The Savings Go On and On...

For more than ten years, WG+E customers have benefited from gas and electric rates which are consistently lower than the state average. We are always working in our customers best interests. We thought you'd want to know. *This chart based on annual bills and average consumption.*

Gas	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
% below State Average	-14.77%	-13.42%	-13.04%	-12.08%	-11.19%	-5.85%	-3.05%	-5.42%	-6.37%	-13.45%

Electric	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
% below State Average	-14.69%	-12.64%	-9.74%	-13.49%	-8.28%	-5.97%	-14.73%	-12.87%	-13.65%	-19.62%