

let's celebrate!



Party season is around the corner, and tents like this will soon dot the landscape, as weddings, graduations, reunions, and back-yard gatherings come into full swing. If you're planning such an event, keep this in mind: tent stakes have the potential to strike buried utilities, but one quick **and free** call to 811 beforehand could save the day!

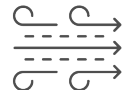
Striking an underground line when digging or driving stakes into the ground can have serious consequences, including disruption of essential services (electric, gas, water, telecommunications, etc.), expensive repair bills, state-issued fines, severe injury, even loss of life. When you contact 811 at least three business days before the tent goes up, local utility companies will identify the approximate location of buried lines. This way, the lines can be avoided while the work is taking place, and you can focus on more important things... like making happy memories!

Remember to always call 811 before you dig (or stake)!

Scan this code to learn more about underground utility safety.
wgeld.org/pages/safety/dig-safe



HEAT PUMP SEMINAR



APRIL 24TH AT 4 PM

**WG+E OPS Center
40 Turnpike Industrial Rd.**

Scan to learn more and register!
Attending the seminar will earn you an additional \$250 credit when you qualify for an electric heating and cooling rebate through WG+E.
Installation of your Air Source Heat Pump must be completed by 4/24/2025.



wgeld.org/news/hp-seminar-2024



Major storms may cause extended power outages.
Keep your family and home safe by being prepared.
Visit our Storm Safety page to learn more.

WG+E

WESTFIELD GAS + ELECTRIC

whip city fiber

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

www.wgeld.org

spring
2024



uninterrupted power



1899 **WG+E** 2024

WESTFIELD GAS + ELECTRIC



spring forward

It's that time of year again—Spring is finally here after a not so strong Winter, and we are excited as the Westfield Gas + Electric hits a major milestone—125 years of providing reliable and safe natural gas and electricity to the city of Westfield. It's pretty remarkable when you think of it. From those early days when the light bulb was just starting to flicker into existence to now, where we can't imagine life without light, let alone internet. And to natural gas, that has been fueling our homes, electric generation and businesses for over a century. But it's not just all about the pipes and wires; it's about the people behind them too. We wouldn't be here without the dedication of our employees over the years. And we cannot forget our Westfield community—you, me, and everyone else who relies on these services day in and day out. Your support and trust is what keeps WG+E going strong. So, here's to 125 incredible years! We look forward to celebrating the past, present, and future with you, all year long.

With warmer weather on the horizon, we will be kicking off construction season with natural gas pipeline replacement starting on Franklin Street and then moving to Apple Blossom Lane, and Brentwood Drive. These projects are

part of our cast iron replacement program which will improve the safety and reliability of our natural gas system.

On the electric side, our team has been hard at work performing routine maintenance and upgrades to ensure reliable power when you need it most. In the coming months, crews will be working on a reconstruction upgrade to primary and secondary wires on Crescent Circle and Ravine Circle utilizing existing underground conduit. Additional upgrades will then be made to poles and conductors on Southwick Road from City View Road to Larchly Avenue to increase reliability between two large circuits in our system.

In other exciting news, we're thrilled to continue construction of Whip City Fiber to bring high-speed internet to even more neighborhoods across the city! Gigabit speed, reliable connections, and local customer service—what more could you ask for? This spring, service will be available in the Downtown Area from Arnold to Franklin Street and Chapel to Meadow Street, as well as the Arch Road Area from Twiss to North Elm Street. Residents waiting for service in these areas can sign up now by completing an application at whipcityfiber.com.

Our Energy Supply team has been hard at work behind the scenes to ensure the reliable and affordable utility rates. This past month, we were able to share a natural gas rate decrease of 22% on the supply charge for residential customers along with an 8% decrease for commercial customers. This put the average residential bill \$80 lower than last March. So, whether you're firing up the grill for a backyard barbecue or cozying up by the fireplace on a chilly spring evening, we hope you enjoy the savings.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Flaherty
General Manager

RESIDENTIAL GAS RATE DECREASE

Warm weather in January and February kept gas prices low

22% decrease to the residential supply charge (\$1.20/Ccf)

Average residential bill will be \$80 lower than last March

WG+E is proud to pass savings on to our customers

COUCH CONVENIENT

Sign up for locally owned gigabit internet to live your comfiest life.

whipcityfiber.com | 413-485-1251

Another benefit of a locally owned utility...

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

| Gas | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| % below/above State Average | -5.85% | -3.05% | -5.42% | -6.37% | -13.45% | -12.12% | -10.63% | -10.27% | -3.91% | -10.85% |

| Electric | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| % below State Average | -5.97% | -14.73% | -12.87% | -13.65% | -19.62% | -18.00% | -15.34% | -14.84% | -11.07% | -15.96% |