

Keep an eye on our social pages this summer! We're hiding mini shovels around town and if you find one, you can redeem it for a free scoop of your favorite ice cream at these locations:

> NORTHSIDE CREAMERY (SOUTHAMPTON RD.)

MR. WHIPY'S GOLF ACRES (UNION ST.)



Watch for clues on:



COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY



FOOD FOR THE SOUL A crew from WG+E showed up to cook and serve a wholesome meal at the Westfield Soup Kitchen.



WTA VISITS WG+E IT students took an end-of-the-year trip to our Operations Center for a lesson on Fiber Optics and Cybersecurity.



RUN WESTFIELD The WG+E/Whip City Fiber team laced up to support the local Fast Flat 5K.

FRONT COVER WG+E Lineman, Ryan Callan at Franklin Avenue Elementary School's Career Week event.



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

www.wgeld.org

summer 2023





WESTFIELD GAS + ELECTRIC



ready for summer

Westfield Gas + Electric is extremely honored to have received two major awards these past few months. The first award was the Platinum Level Reliable Public Provider (RP3) designation from American Public Power Association (APPA) for providing reliable and safe electric service. Coinciding on the gas side was our second award from the American Public Gas Association (APGA) which presented WG+E with the prestigious System Operations Achievement Recognition (SOAR) award for excellence in operating our natural gas utility. We are proud to be recognized for our commitment to safety in both natural gas and electric services.

The schedule for planned gas and electric construction projects will ramp up this summer including the ongoing DOT project for Cowles Bridge which carries Southwick Rd over Little River. In addition, gas crews will be busy around Meadow Village Apartments, Meadow St, and Mechanic St with the reconstruction of the gas distribution mains and associated house services. You may see our electric crews working on Canal Dr, Crescent Cir, Colony Cir, and Colony Dr installing new underground primary cables. Please remember to keep them safe and drive safely around all work sites.

As part our commitment to providing affordable and reliable energy to the community, we have announced new lower natural gas summer rates, which will be in effect from May through September 2023. Residential customers can expect to see an average decrease of \$38 (-43%) from their May 2022 bills along with summer bills dropping to nearly half

The average Massachusetts electric customer paid approximately 14% more than WG+E's customers.

Based on average residential customer usage of 9000 kWh/year from April 2022-March 2023.

 State Average (+14.2%)
 \$1,750.62

 WG+E
 \$1,532.52

The average Massachusetts gas customer paid approximately 2% less than WG+E's customers.

Based on average residential consumption of 785 Ccf from April 2022-March 2023.

 State of MA Average (-1.8%)
 \$1,733.96

 WG+E
 \$1,766.63

the cost of the state average. Actual bills will vary based on individual energy usage.

While this rate change offers some reprieve, the cost of energy remains elevated compared to pre-2022 levels. This pricing is influenced by many factors, including weather and geopolitical events so we do expect to see higher prices affecting natural gas and electric rates through the rest of 2023 and into 2024.

As the WG+E Energy Supply team works to keep rates low and stable all year long, there are steps that you can take to reduce the impact of higher costs on your wallet. The warmer weather is a great time to take advantage of energy efficiency benefits and rebates offered at wgeld.org under Residential > Ways to Save. We provide rebates for energy efficient water heaters, heat pumps, appliances, and pool pumps which can all help reduce your overall use and bills.

Starting in August, you can make your payments more manageable when you sign up for a WG+E Budget Plan. This program calculates your average usage during the months of September through June and breaks it up into even payments over the 10-month period. With more predictable natural gas and electric payments, it is easier to anticipate your monthly energy costs. To get set up, give our customer service team a call at 413-572-0100 when you receive your August WG+E bill.

Thank you to all who came out for WG+E Night at the Starfires, the weather held out and it was a great night of baseball and fireworks. I hope everyone has a safe summer and mark your calendar now for the Big Rig Rally at Pumpkinfest on October 14th.

Tom Flaherty General Manager

SAVE ENERGY + MONEY

Turn off lights and unneeded appliances when you leave the room.

Set your thermostat a few degrees higher during hot summer afternoons.

Run the dishwasher or washer and dryer early in the day or wait until after 8 PM.

Charge your electric vehicle between the hours of 8 PM and 8 AM on weekdays.



SET UP A BUDGET PLAN

Take the guesswork out of your utility bill with a consistent monthly payment from September-June. Call us when you get your August bill to get started.

413-572-0100