

General Manager Newsletter

North Attleborough Electric Department



APRIL 2022

Monthly Update of North Attleborough Electric Department's Activities

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Electric Commissioners (Chairman John Gould, Vice Chairman Steven Cabral, Commissioner Dale Langille, Commissioner John Casey, & Commissioner Craig Cameron), it is a pleasure to provide this month's update relative to NAED Events and Activities.



**Our APRIL 2022 Calendar winner is
Neve Constantine
Saint Mary Sacred Heart-Grade 8**

NAED is one of only forty (40) municipal electric departments within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts established under the provisions of M.G.L.c. 164. We are committed to promoting the interests of "Public Power" on behalf of the citizens of this community.

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I. After 19 months, COVID-19 discount to end

At the March 29, 2022 Board of Electric Commissioners meeting the Board agreed not to continue the COVID 10% billing discount under the advisement of the General Manager and Business Division, primarily due to the staggering increase in wholesale energy costs.

NAED customers were provided bill relief for 19 total months between March 2020 through March 2022:

2020 – 6 months of COVID discounts totaling ~\$1,675,000 & a March Power/Revenue Credit of ~\$3,090,000

2021 – 10 months of COVID discounts totaling ~\$2,809,000 & a March Power/Revenue Credit of \$3,066,000

2022 – 3 months of COVID discounts totaling ~\$901,000 & a March Revenue Credit of ~\$653,000

The decision to discontinue the discount is a necessary one to ensure that NAED can continue to provide excellent reliability and service while also battling the surging cost of Energy. NAED purchases Power through a combination of fixed priced contracts (~65% of all our energy is fixed price) and spot market pricing. The majority of spot market energy is generated from natural gas, which has seen a steady increase in the past 4 months. We are constantly looking to expand our fixed price position with renewables over time. Our goal is to prevent rates from increasing to customers in the short term while also studying long-term requirements for the effective and efficient operation of the Department.

Commissioners and the NAED staff have a few tools in our toolbox to combat the rise in Energy prices including a healthy Rate Stabilization Fund, which can be tapped as needed before needing to raise short-term rates. In many ways, the Department is fortunate to be in a healthy financial position to protect our customers from "rate-shock" and we will continue to have the backs of our residents as we face an uncertain next couple of years in the energy market.

II. NAED Online Services



How do I? At the NAED website, www.naelectric.com, you may set up online payment methods. These can include Auto-pay for your account. Under Quick Links, select View/Pay My Bill to begin setting these up for your use. As a reminder, NAED staff are not able to access your on-line auto pay account and therefore are not able to update your credit card information. If your credit card information changes, such as expiration date, please use the online services to update your account.

III. Tree Trimming

North Attleborough residents will observe our vegetation management contractors in your neighborhood a bit more frequently than in the past. The area scheduled to be trimmed in 2022 is shown on the map along with a list of streets included within this area. To view the map visit www.naelectric.com/images/NAED_Website_Map_Area4-2022.pdf

IV. April is Earth Month and National Safe Digging Month



Please remember to call before you dig!

April 24th is Earth Day. Help keep your Town beautiful by volunteering for Keep North Attleborough Beautiful day on May 7. This year's Town Hall Nights will be held on Thursdays April 21 & April 28th, 5pm-7pm. Please remember that coming to one of these nights is necessary for volunteers to confirm their registration and pick up supplies. This year the Giant Raffle returns! Don't forget to bring cash to the Town Hall Nights to participate.



V. Energy Efficiency

It is time to think "SPRING" and lawn care. This year NAED has added rebates for energy efficient battery powered lawn equipment. Please visit our website www.naelectric.com for more information on the types of equipment that qualify.



VI. Good Neighbor Energy Fund

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is available to any Massachusetts resident who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month's energy expense and is not eligible for state or federal energy assistance. Income must fall between 60% and 80% of the state's median income levels. You may qualify for up to \$300 in assistance. For income guidelines please visit:

<http://magoodneighbor.org/assistance.html> or call NAED at 508-643-6376 for more information.



Please continue to remember our fellow citizens who are defending our country throughout the world. As always, should you have any questions at any time, please feel free to contact me at 508-643-6300.

Sincerely, Peter Schiffman, General Manager

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North Attleborough
Electric Department



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