



Rowley Light Beacon

Lighting Up Our Community

RMLP Quarterly Newsletter ~ Summer 2025

Manager's Letter



Summer is on our doorstep and believe it or not, temperatures will become more seasonable. That means hot and humid weather will soon be upon us - air conditioners will be humming, fans will be whirring, and pool filters will be up and running. Just think of all the electricity we use to keep cool when the weather is hot! We can all save energy and money if we take

steps to reduce our own usage throughout the summer.

Summer is the time when electric light departments like RMLP experience high demand, often leading to the issuances of Reduce the Peak notifications. If we take steps to reduce the amount of electricity we use, we reduce the possibility of putting strain on the grid as we all try to keep cool. This newsletter contains more information about why we need your help and how you can do your part to help Reduce the Peak!

Summer is also the time when both children and adults spend more time outdoors. Each school year, RMLP sponsors a program conducted by safety consultant Ray Gouley which demonstrates how the students can stay safe around electricity. But it's just as important for adults to be vigilant around electricity, especially when using ladders that could come in contact with electric wires leading into their homes, during severe summers storms while taking a walk or out on the golf course, and when using electric yard equipment around water sources. Take a few minutes to become more aware of your surroundings. As they say: it's better to be safe than sorry!

And finally, hurricane season is here. For many years we have been spared from any direct hits from severe hurricanes like the southern states, but we haven't been spared from the effects of hurricanes that roar up the coast with high winds and heavy rain. Strong winds can take down trees and power lines, leading to widespread outages. Although our crews are out as soon as it is safe after the storm passes, it is possible that power could be out for several hours, if not longer, depending upon the extent of the damage. If a storm is predicted, take the time before it arrives to get all your essential medications filled, your phones fully charged, and your emergency supplies like batteries fully stocked.

Summer is a great time of year filled with gatherings of family and friends, vacations, and outdoor activities. Have fun – and stay safe!

Matt Brown
General Manager

Public Power is Local Power!

Rowley is one of more than 2,000 cities and towns in the United States that receive their electricity from a community-owned and -operated utility. We are proud to serve the community of Rowley. Public power utilities are owned by the community, and are run by boards of local officials, in our case a three-member Board of Light Commission, who are accountable to the ratepayers they serve. While public power utilities are unique, all 2000+ operate with a common mission: providing its customers with safe, reliable, not-for-profit electricity at a reasonable price while protecting the environment.

We're proud to be YOUR locally controlled and locally operated public power utility!

RMLP is Reliable!



Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant was one of only 255 public power utilities honored by the American Public Power Association (APPA) with a Certificate of

Excellence in Reliability for reliable performance. The certificate celebrates utilities like RMLP whose 2024 System Average Interruption Data Index (SAIDI) was in the top 25 percentile of reliability nationwide as measured against the U.S. Energy Information Association (EIA) data from 2019-2023.

RMLP participates in APPA's e-Reliability Tracker service to track its power outages and restoration against these national benchmarks. According to APPA, the certificate demonstrates that public power utilities are generally above average in reliability when compared to all U.S. electricity providers.

Another reason why we are proud to be a Public Power provider!

Are You Looking to Replace Your Yard Equipment?

If you thought you could get another year out of your gas-powered yard equipment, but found that you can't after a few uses, or if you're tired of the noise your lawn equipment makes, consider replacing the equipment with another powered by battery or electricity.

RMLP offers incentive rebates to qualifying residential accounts in amounts that range from \$25 for hedge trimmers or leaf blowers, to \$200 for rider lawn mowers. Qualifying purchases must be made after January 1, 2025. For additional qualification guidelines, and rebate forms, visit rmlp.org.

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

School Safety Program

RMLP recently sponsored its annual R.F. Gouley Educational Safety Program conducted by noted electrical safety expert Ray Gouley for students at the Pine Grove School. During his hands-on demonstrations, Ray explained ways for the children to stay safe at home, school, and while outdoors.

In addition to showing the students how lineworkers stay safe while working with electricity, Ray also focused on lithium-ion batteries which are used to power electronics as well as electric bikes and scooters.

Ray also conducts an annual safety and conservation program at the Rowley Senior Center.



Help Us Reduce the Peak!

Rowley Municipal Light Plant (RMLP) occasionally announces "Reduce the Peak" Notifications. When these occur, RMLP asks customers to reduce their electricity consumption during a designated period of time.

Why?

Electricity we purchase during high demand periods (usually during extreme heat or extreme cold) comes at a premium cost. By all working together and dialing down our electricity usage during each "Reduce The Peak" event, you can help keep electricity rates lower. **IMPORTANT: the success of "Reduce the Peak" depends heavily on RMLP customer participation.**

How can you help keep rates low?

1. **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.** Be alert for Peak Alerts. RMLP will post details of each "Reduce The Peak" event on our

Facebook page and on Rowley Talks on the day of a predicted event. Here's an example: "Today is a potential Peak Electricity Usage Day. We anticipate peak between 3-7pm, with the highest probability between 5-6pm. Please conserve electricity during this period and help RMLP keep rates down".

2. **CONSERVE DURING THE PREDICTED PEAK.** Turn off lights and electronics when they're not needed; use washers, dryers, dishwashers, and pool pumps either before or after the predicted peak time window; raise the temperature setting on your air conditioner by a few degrees (or down a few in winter); and cook dinner on the grill if it's summer.

Please join other customers help RMLP "Reduce the Peak" during alert periods! For tips on saving energy, visit rmlp.org/energy-saving-tips.html. Thank you for helping your community and RMLP!



www.rmlp.org

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

Holidays:
Juneteenth - June 19
Independence Day - July 4

General Manager:
Matt Brown

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

