

FEBRUARY 2021



## Grab n' Go Event Aids Seniors

LELWD teamed up with the Littleton Council on Aging to distribute "winter survival kits" to senior citizens. The kits included batteries, a flashlight, non-perishable food items, a Band-Aid kit, and LELWD face masks. Sue Raymond (left) of Littleton COA and LELWD's Connor Reardon (right) were on hand to distribute the kits. Planning is underway for another "grab n' go" event to replace this year's LELWD senior luncheon in April. The annual event was canceled last year due to the pandemic. More information will be provided through the Littleton and Boxborough senior citizens groups as it becomes available.



## Help for Recycling and Trails

The water department lent a hand picking up old wood guard rails from 153 Taylor St. to be reused as boardwalks along Littleton trails.



## Water Treatment Plant Construction Scheduled for Spring Start

Construction of a new water treatment plant on Whitcomb Avenue is scheduled to begin this spring. The plant will treat raw water from the Spectacle Pond and Whitcomb Avenue wells.

Originally planned to remove iron and manganese – naturally occurring minerals that can stain fixtures – the treatment plant will also filter the chemical PFAS, a newly regulated contaminant recently discovered in the Spectacle Pond and Whitcomb Avenue wells.

Construction of the \$30 million project will take about 16-18 months. The plant project will go out to bid in February with a contractor chosen in April. Installation of a water main to transport Spectacle Pond water to the new plant will also start this spring.

A home-rule petition clearing the way for construction was passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Charlie Baker. Passed by Littleton Town Meeting and filed in the Legislature by State Rep. Jim Arciero, the home-rule legislation affirmed LELWD's right to build on its property behind the VFW building. The new facility was originally intended to treat the water from the Whitcomb Avenue well, the only untreated source in the town's system.

In 2019, testing discovered PFAS in the Whitcomb Avenue and Spectacle Pond wells at levels hovering at the state limit. Then LELWD decided to expand the purpose of the plant to remove PFAS, a family of chemical compounds known for their non-stick properties and that do not break down in the environment.

## Climate Bill Increases Renewable Energy Targets

Legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and require the use of more renewable energy is in negotiation on Beacon Hill. The legislation will:

- Set an emissions reduction target likely in the range of 45-50% of 1990 emissions levels by 2030 and 65-75% by 2040, with 100% renewable energy by 2050.
- Enable municipalities to adopt "stretch energy codes" to require high-performing, energy-efficient new construction.
- Require Massachusetts utilities to buy an additional 2,400 megawatts of offshore wind power.
- Set statewide emissions targets for transportation, electric power, and commercial and industrial heating and cooling.
- Establish new energy-efficiency standards for appliances.

The Legislature passed the legislation, and Governor Baker returned it with suggested amendments. The legislation, Senate Bill 13, is currently with a Senate committee and available to read on [mass.gov](http://mass.gov).

978-540-2222

**Office Hours:**

Mon. - Thurs. 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed Fridays

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## New Rebates Available in 2021

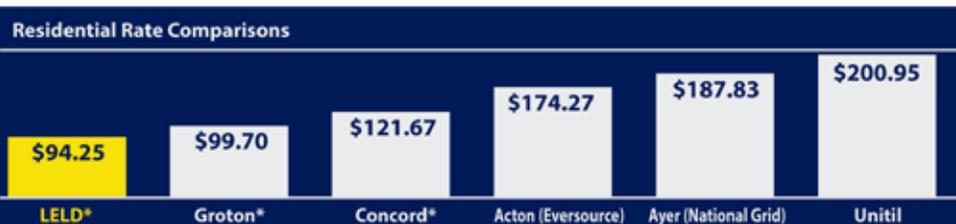
The Green Rewards program has new rebates available to LELWD customers. The rebates include money back on cordless yard equipment, tankless water heaters and select household appliances.

The Green Rewards program helps customers save money while also conserving natural resources. Full details on the program are at [www.llelwd.com/greenrewards](http://www.llelwd.com/greenrewards).

New rebates are now available on the purchase of:

- **Select cordless battery yard equipment, such as mowers and weed whackers.** Cordless power tools can help lower your carbon footprint. They do not require gasoline or oil to operate and there are no fumes or exhaust while in use. They are also quieter and easier to maintain.
- **Tankless water heaters.** Get a \$100 rebate for electric on-demand (tankless) water heaters. They conserve energy by avoiding the standby heat loss common to storage water heaters.
- **Dehumidifiers, heat pump clothes dryers and clothes washers.** Get a \$50 rebate when you install one of these Energy Star-rated appliances. A heat pump clothes dryer self contains heated air by cycling it through refrigerants and a heat exchange. It reuses the heat that would have otherwise been vented to the outside by ordinary dryers. Heat pump dryers can reduce electricity by at least 28%, according to Energy Star.

Before purchasing these items, carefully read the terms and conditions of the rebates at [www.llelwd.com/greenrewards/rebates](http://www.llelwd.com/greenrewards/rebates).



\*Municipally owned utility

Source: Residential rate comparison for 750 kWh based on 12-month average rate, Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020, as compiled by the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Co.

### Cedar Hill tank replacement

Construction of a new Cedar Hill water storage tank is set to begin this spring. The new tank will be built at 34 Cedar Road, adjacent to the existing tank.

The new tank volume will be about the same as the existing 485,000 gallon tank. It will look similar to a tank in Georgetown (shown). The Cedar Hill Tank is critical to the water department's ability to meet the daily demand of our customers, as well as maintain proper pressure in the Long Lake neighborhood.

Residents should expect occasional traffic delays. The new tank is expected to be completed late this fall, and the old tank will be demolished in 2022.

