

Princeton Municipal Light Department

2010 Annual Town Report

PMLD is a non-profit public service corporation, whose primary goal is to provide reliable and cost effective electric service to the residents and businesses of the Town of Princeton. PMLD has operated in Princeton since 1912. PMLD is a Town asset, working as a separate governmental unit, with its own Board of Light Commissioners, policies, and budget serving the needs and providing value to our ratepayers.

December 11th Ice Storm

PMLD's overhead electric distribution system was severely damaged during the December 11, 2008 ice storm. The cost to repair PMLD's electrical distribution system totaled approximately \$2.2M. PMLD borrowed this amount, through a town issued short-term note, to pay for the repair expenses. FEMA reimbursed PMLD 75% of the repair costs and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts reimbursed 12.5% to date.

In 2010, PMLD collected a storm surcharge of \$10.00 per month from each electricity account. In 2010, PMLD collected \$183,170 from this surcharge. These additional revenues are being used to repay the loan and storm related expenses. PMLD expects to utilize this surcharge through April 2011.

In January 2010, PMLD refinanced \$500,000 in ice storm expenses through a town issued 6 month BAN. In July 2010, PMLD repaid \$225,000 and refinanced the remaining \$225,000 through a final 9 month BAN due April 2011.

Electric Customer and Rates

PMLD provided service to 1,430 residential, 5 Farm, 80 commercial, and 16 municipal customers in 2010. Residential customers consume approximately 86% of the town's total energy use. All of PMLD's customers consumed approximately 15 million kWh of energy in 2010, and the average home consumes approximately 750 kWh per month.

PMLD continues to provide reliable and cost effective electric service. The average home in Princeton spends approximately \$150.00 per month on electricity. As part of PMLD's five year budget plan, approved by the Board of Light Commissioners, PMLD increased its rates by 3% effective July 1, 2010.

PMLD has had only eleven rate increases over the past 24 years. This represents an average rate increase of only 3% per year since 1983 which is pretty close to the average annual rate of inflation. PMLD's number one priority is to maintain the lowest possible rates, while providing the most reliable electric service possible.

Wind Farm Project

On January 12, 2010, the wind farm was fully operational and PMLD generated almost a full year of energy from the new wind turbines. During the first full year of operation, the wind farm generated 6,001,302 kWh's or 36% of town's annual energy requirements.

This first year of operation was challenging as we troubleshooted and commissioned the new turbines. We expect to reach our goal of producing 40% from the wind turbines in 2011.

The wind farm project demonstrates our commitment to renewable energy, reduces our dependency on the fossil fuels that cause pollution, reduces our Town's energy costs, and most importantly, balances the environmental and community impacts.

Service to Town

In addition to providing low cost and reliable energy, PMLD performed many other services for the Town and our customers in 2010.

- Discounted the cost of Town owned streetlights
- Installed holiday decorations, Town Common lights, and other banners and signs
- Included Town related mailings in monthly bills to save postage and handling costs
- Sponsored electrical safety classes for our children at the Thomas Prince School
- Provided storage and meeting space for the Princeton baseball league, Friends of the Library, Princeton girl scouts cookies, and Town Selectmen
- Offered rebates for energy efficient refrigerators and dishwashers

Reliability

Delivering and maintaining reliable energy to every customer in Princeton is one of our main goals. PMLD completed many upgrade projects to the electric distribution system such as new utility poles, wires, and hardware. The total number of town wide outages has decreased significantly as compared to previous years.

Renewable Energy

PMLD's commitment to protecting the environment and purchasing renewable energy continued in FY2010. Generating and purchasing renewable energy makes a difference and in FY2010 PMLD purchased approximately 11% of its energy from various hydroelectric power plants throughout the region. This renewable energy is purchased at very favorable costs compared to market and contract power costs.

Wireless High-speed Internet Access

PMLD provides cost effective high-speed wireless Internet access to the town's residents and businesses. Approximately 24 antennas provide wireless Internet coverage throughout the majority of town. The network does have some service coverage limitations related to terrain, customer density, and foliage. PMLD continues to manage the network operations to provide reliable internet service to our customers. PMLD had approximately 290 active customers by the end of 2010. PMLD will continue to troubleshoot and improve the delivery of high-speed wireless Internet access to our community. PMLD will also continue to manage the town's inclusion in the Commonwealth's MBI project to provide and install middle-mile fiber to various anchor institutions in Princeton.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Board of Light Commissioner's

Princeton Road Advisory Committee (RAC) FY 2011 Road Reconstruction Report

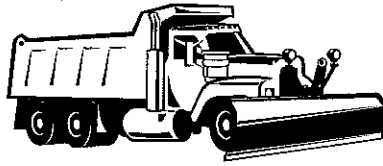
In Fiscal Year 2011 we reconstructed two roads. Gates Road was completed in the spring of the year and Calamint Hill South was completed in the fall. In the 15 years that the Road Advisory Committee has been established we have reconstructed 44 miles of Princeton roads.

Next summer 2011 (Fiscal Year 2012) we plan to mill and repave Hubbardston Road (Route 62) from Gates Road to the Hubbardston Town line. We also plan to apply for a STRAP grant (Small Town Rural Assistance Program) for the reconstruction of Mirick Road from Route 31 to Beaman Road. If we are approved for the grant we wouldn't expect to start construction until 2013 because applications are not being accepted until this September.

Maintenance of those roads that we have reconstructed remains critical to protecting our infrastructure investments. We periodically apply a chip seal to the surface of these roads. This year we chip sealed Allen Hill Road, Merriam Road, and Radford Road.

Glenn Lyons and his Highway Department personnel continue to provide the Town with an incredible value for our tax dollars. The quality of their work and conscientious approach to their jobs is to be commended once again. Without them the success of the road reconstruction program would not be possible. As always thanks to the citizens, Advisory Board, CIP and the Select Board for your support of the RAC's efforts to bring up and maintain our Town roads in good driving condition.

Respectfully submitted: Larry Greene, Chairman
Glenn Lyons (Highway Superintendent), Joe Bellucci, Mickey Splaine, Kevin Toohey,
Terry Thompson



REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 2010

The Highway department during the past year undertook the following road projects:

- Completed the construction of Gates Road.
- Completed the construction of Calamint Hill Road South.
- Applied stone sealing treatment to Merriam Road, Allen Hill Road and Radford Road.

The Highway department's routine maintenance consisted of shoulder, ditch and catch basin cleaning, street sweeping, line painting, pot hole patching, culvert replacement, brush chipping, road side mowing and maintenance of all parks, athletic fields, playgrounds and the town common.

I would like to thank Town Administrator, John Lebeaux; the Board of Selectmen, the Road Advisory Committee members; all town employees and residents for their input and assistance in making this year a pleasurable and productive one.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Lyons
Highway Superintendent

2010 ANNUAL REPORT WACHUSETT EARTHDAY

Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycling Center and Wachusett Recycled Resource Center

2011 marks the start of the second full year of collections at the Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycling Center at 131 Raymond Huntington Highway in West Boylston. The center is the result of a continuing partnership between seven Wachusett Towns, the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation and volunteers from Wachusett Earthday, Incorporated. This center provides year-round collections of household hazardous products (e.g., oil-based paints, aerosols, pesticides) and bulk recyclables (e.g., appliances, electronics, tires, batteries, fluorescent tubes) and re-useable. The participating Watershed Towns are Boylston, Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling and West Boylston.

In October 2010, partners marked the successful establishment of the Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycling Center with a ribbon cutting. Celebrants included representatives of the seven participating Towns, regional legislators, the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation and Department of Environmental Protection and Wachusett Earthday.

Designated town representatives (AKA: Site Team members), the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (AKA: DCR) and the volunteer board of Wachusett Earthday, Incorporated continue to meet on a regular basis to plan on-going operations and the next phase of site development. A septic system, water well and electric service were established on the site in 2010. Participating town's municipal light companies worked together to extend electric service to the site including approximately six new utility poles, wires, transformer, etc. DCR personnel moved one of the two donated office trailers into position to serve as a temporary shelter and storage space until a permanent building can be constructed. Planning for a future building is on-going and construction is anticipated in FY 2013.

A total of twenty-five (25) collections were held in calendar 2010 with four of those including Household Hazardous Waste disposal. 2,792 car trips were made to the center by residents from across the seven town region. At least 5,000 pounds of household hazardous waste have been safely removed from the watershed along with 1,302 computer monitors and TV's; 1,272 appliances and refrigerators; 815 pieces of furniture; 133 cubic yards of project debris; 824 tires, 316 propane cylinders and 118 tons of recyclable metals, cardboard, plastic, styrofoam and other waste.

The Watershed Recycling Center is open every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. and the third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. when bulk, recycling and reuse items are collected. Four Household Hazardous Products collections are planned for

2011 between April and November to be held on Saturdays along with the bulk collections. The first HHP in 2011 is scheduled for Saturday, April 16th.

The Wachusett Recycled Resource Center offering free recycled materials remained open at 52 Boyden Road in Holden. The Resource Center is open three times each week (Monday 6-8 p.m., Tuesday 9 to 11 a.m., and Thursday 3 to 5 p.m.) and is operated by volunteers. Wachusett Towns contribute utilities, and Oriol Health Care provides the space including snow removal, and Wachusett Earthday volunteers are responsible for maintenance and repairs. During 2010 more than 11,000 visitors received free items for use in classrooms, theater programs, community programs and homes.

2010 Members of the Site Team:

Boylston—Nancy Colbert

Rutland—Don D'Auteuil

Holden—Jack Chandler

Sterling—Bill Tuttle

Paxton—Charles Blanchard, Carol Riches, Diane Dillman West Boylston—Leon Gaumond

Princeton—Arthur Allen

Wachusett Earthday—Colleen

Abrams

MA Department of Conservation and Recreation—John Scannell

2010 Directors of Wachusett Earthday:

Colleen Abrams, Susan Abramson, Arthur Allen, Karl Barry, Kelly Calamari, , Eric Johansen, Michael Kacprzicki, Douglas Kimball, C. Mary McLoughlin, Stanley Miller, Kerry Raber, William Rand, Diane Spindler, Robert Spindler.

Resigned: Patricia Charbonneau, Andre Gaudet

Princeton Cemetery Commission 2010 Annual Report

Our opening day for the Princeton cemeteries was the usual April 15th. All the cemeteries were cleaned of their winter debris and presented a good appearance for the Memorial Day ceremonies. Landscaping improvements this year included planting a number of trees in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Bruce Rollins continues as Superintendent along with Dick Wheeler providing cemetery maintenance in 2010.

3 full lots and 7 cremation lots were sold during the year. There were 6 full burials and 4 cremation burials during the year.

During the second half of November the cemeteries were closed for the winter season as usual.

Respectfully submitted,

L J Trostel Jr
Secretary
Princeton Cemetery Commission