

Holiday shopping at RMLD

RMLD gift certificates are a unique and thoughtful way to wrap up your holiday shopping. Available in any amount, they



can be used like cash to pay RMLD bills. And who wouldn't welcome a little help

with bills during the holidays? Call our office to order certificates by credit card, or drop by our office to pay by credit card, cash or money order. Our office is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with plenty of easy parking at 230 Ash St., Reading.

Energy-saving tips

- Install an Energy Star programmable thermostat and get a \$25 rebate from RMLD. Call our office or visit rml.com for details.
- Need new holiday lights? Choose LED lights and save 75% in energy costs over standard lights.
- Now's a good time to add insulation to your attic, walls or ceilings if needed. If you need advice, call RMLD's Energy Efficiency Engineer Jared Carpenter at 781-942-6412.
- Use the power of the sun. Open drapes and blinds on sunny days to take advantage of solar heat and close them at night to hold in warmth.

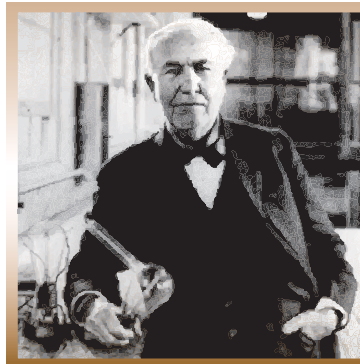
In Brief

Farewell to Mr. Edison's light bulbs

After more than 130 years as a household fixture, the familiar incandescent light bulb is set to go out of production in the U.S. over a three-year period beginning in 2012.

The manufacturing phase-out process will begin with 100-watt bulbs in 2012, followed by 75-watt bulbs in 2013, and 65- and 40-watt bulbs in 2014.

The end of bulb technology introduced by Thomas Edison in 1880 was written into a 2007 federal law aimed at



saving energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The idea is to have consumers switch to bulbs that use more efficient technology such as compact fluorescents, light-emitting diodes, and halogen bulbs.

The new law does NOT require consumers to throw out their old bulbs, and it remains legal to sell, buy and use them while inventories remain. It also does not apply to three-way bulbs, appliance bulbs and those under 40 watts or over 150 watts.

Level payments with budget billing

With the winter months ahead of us and with no relief in energy prices in sight, you may want to consider budget billing for 2012. Instead of paying the full amount due each month, pay level monthly installments.

This will not reduce your costs, but it will help you with your household budget expenses and you will avoid paying high electric bills during peak seasons. Budget billing begins in January and your account must be paid in full to take advantage of this program. Call a customer specialist at 781-944-1340 for program details and more information.

COMMISSIONER SERVICE AWARD – RMLD

Commissioner Phil Pacino accepts the Northeast Public Power Association's Commissioner Service Award at the association's recent annual conference. The award honors him for serving with distinction as a light commissioner in Reading since 1987, during which time he has held the position of chair, vice-chair and secretary of the RMLD Board of Commissioners several times.



RMLD Directory

Customer Service & Billing
781-944-1340 or 781-942-6598

Customer Service Manager
781-942-6480

Emergency
781-944-1340 or 781-942-6598

Payment Locations
RMLD office:

230 Ash St., Reading
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Drop-off box is in the parking lot.

Town of Reading drop box
Town Hall parking lot
16 Lowell St., Reading

Lucci's
223 Lowell St., Wilmington
(Two drop-off boxes with daily pick-up)

Karen's Bakery
Colonial Shopping Center Lynnfield
New England Beverage
158 Main St., North Reading
(Outside drop-off box only)

Holiday Closing

Monday, October 10
Columbus Day

Friday, November 11
Veterans Day

Thursday and Friday Nov. 24 and 25
Thanksgiving Holiday

Events

Recycle Day, is Oct. 22, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Reading Town Hall, co-sponsored by People's United Bank and the Town of Reading. Free shredding for one box of paper; \$5 each for subsequent boxes. Also accepting bagged clothing, linens, books and electronics for charity. Fee for TVs and computer monitors is \$10; all else is free. For details call Susan Hubbard, at 978-777-2200, ext. 1113.

RMHS Drama Club: "Thoroughly Modern Millie" at the Performing Arts Center, 62 Oakland Road, Reading. November 11, 12, 18 and 19 at 7:30 p.m.; November 13 and 20 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$10 for students/seniors. Call 781-670-9234 or visit tickets@rmhsdrama.com.

Stoneham Theater Productions
Oct. 20 – Nov. 6, Buddy Cop 2
Nov. 25 – Dec. 22, The Nutcracker
Nov. 26 – Dec. 23, Sisters' Christmas Catechism. Call 781-279-2200 or visit stonehamtheater.com for details.

SEPTEMBER 2011 BILL COMPARISON

RMLD \$96.24

NATIONAL GRID \$101.45

NSTAR \$114.99

750 kilowatt-hours, average monthly home use

Pick an *easy* payment option



Tired of mailing checks? Pick another easy payment option. View and pay your bill online at rml.com. Even simpler, arrange for your bill payments to be automatically deducted from your

bank account with our easy Auto-Pay program. Call Customer Service at 781-944-1340 to get started.

You can also make payments at any of the locations listed in the Directory at left. Drop-off locations are for checks only. Our office accepts checks, cash, money orders and credit cards.

COMMUNITY NEWS



• **Friends of the Reading Public Library** will host a cello/piano performance by Eugene Friesen with Tim Ray at the library on **Oct. 16, at 3 p.m.** The Group Zulu will perform **Oct. 19, at 7 p.m.** at Old South United Methodist Church, Reading. Dickens Holiday Marketplace and Craft Faire is **Dec. 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at Reading Memorial High School. Admission to all events is free.

• **Reading Art Association** will hold an artist demonstration with Tom Sutherland on **Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m.** at the First Congregational Church. The annual Fall Art Exhibit is also at the church on **Nov. 11, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.**; **Nov. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, and **Nov. 13, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.**

• **Reading Society of Craftsmen** will present a craft sale and exhibit on **Oct. 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 239 Woburn St., Reading. Call Karen at 617-776-9359 for more information.

• **Reading Garden Club** will hold a Memory Tree lighting ceremony **Dec. 4, at 4 p.m.** on the Reading Public Library front lawn. Buy a "light" to remember an individual or event. Contact Mary Ann Higgins at 781-944-4428 or mahiggins5@gmail.com.

• **Burbank YMCA** plans a Halloween costume swap for **Oct. 7, from 6 to 7 p.m.** Halloween Bash is **Oct. 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** – sign-ups required. The 5K Classic begins **Nov. 19, at 9 a.m.** at Wakefield Commons. Register at ymcaboston.org/burbank.

• **Reading Public Library** will host its annual Book Group Night with author Ann Hood on **Oct. 12, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.** in the library meeting room. Tony Toledo will tell scary stories to kids in grade 3 and up on **Oct. 18, from 7 to 8 p.m.** in the library meeting room. Both events are free with limited seating.

• **Flint Memorial Library** in North Reading will hold an artists' reception for exhibit by local artists on **Oct. 20, from 6 to 7 p.m.** Music by The Joy of Sax Trio. Fall book sale is **Nov. 3, 5 to 8 p.m.** (Friends-only preview); **Nov. 4, 4 to 8 p.m.**, and **Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

• **In Memoriam.** RMLD extends our sympathies to the family and many friends of retired North Reading Police Chief Hank Purnell, who passed away September 9. He had an unparalleled presence at North Reading events and was deeply respected by all who knew him. He was a 27-year loyal member of the Rotary Club of North Reading, and his passing is a sad loss to the entire community.

• **Wilmington Library** will host reporter and "Prime Time" author Hank Phillippi Ryan on **Nov. 2, at 7 p.m.** for an author talk and book signing. Photojournalist Barry Pell will present Tibet and Nepal on **Nov. 8, at 7 p.m.** and Myanmar on **Nov. 14, at 7 p.m.**

• **Lynnfield Library** presents four programs about George Gershwin on **Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 22, from 10 a.m. to noon** at the Meeting House. Hanukkah story time will be held **Dec. 19, from 4 to 5 p.m.** with the Lappin Foundation. To register call 978-740-4404 or email posher@rilcf.org.

READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

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