

In Brief

Call Dig Safe at 811 before you dig

If you're planning an outside project that includes digging a hole—no matter how shallow or deep—don't start before learning the locations of underground lines on your property.

To find out, call Dig Safe at 811 at least three days before your job is scheduled to begin. They will notify participating utilities to mark the locations of underground lines so you can clearly see areas you need to avoid. Don't make the mistake of thinking that a small hole won't matter. There may be buried lines for services such as gas, water, electricity, telephone and cable.

This crucial safety service is free and required by law. A quick phone call is all it takes, or you can also make Dig Safe requests online at digsafe.com.



Listen for *easy energy-saving advice*

The next time you call our office, you may get some new ideas on ways to conserve energy and save money on your electric bill. That's because RMLD has a new telephone messaging system that replaces music with useful messages when a caller is on hold.

The messages include quick, timely information about RMLD programs and services, along with energy- and money-saving ideas. One current message is about our time-of-use rate:

“Did you know that RMLD offers a time-of-use rate that can save you significant dollars each month by using less electricity during day-time working hours? The time-of-use rate is suited

to households where most of the residents are not at home during the on-peak hours; weekdays from noon to 7 p.m. Ask a customer specialist for more information.”



Another message now in use is this energy-saving tip:

“A great alternative to beat the heat without air conditioning are room fans. At night fans will help rid the house of the heat built up from the daytime sun. It also helps if you close shades and windows during the day to keep the cool air in and the sun out. At night, if possible, open windows that will provide the best cross ventilation.”

Topics will be regularly updated to reflect seasonal changes and to spotlight different programs.

Congratulations to our *iPod* winner!

Congratulations to Reading's Charles Blanchard for winning an Apple iPod nano 8 GB when his name was drawn from among those who signed up for RMLD's paperless billing option this spring.

The new option allows customers to receive and pay their electric bills online, a choice that saves both time and trees. All customers who recently provided their e-mail addresses to us will be invited to sign up for this voluntary paperless billing option. Others can sign up online at rmld.com, or call 781-944-1340 or 781-942-6598 for details.



Customer Service Manager Maureen Hanifan presents Charles Blanchard of Reading with an Apple iPod nano 8 GB, which he won in our paperless billing drawing.

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 park-
ing 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, September 5
Labor Day

Monday, October 10
Columbus Day

Meetings
Call 781-944-1340 or visit rmld.com for meeting details.

Events

Friday, September 23, Reading-
North Reading Chamber
of Commerce Annual Golf
Tournament, Hillview Country
Club, North Reading; noon registra-
tion and lunch, 1:30 p.m. shotgun
start, \$150 per golfer. Call Irene
Collins at 978-664-5060 or e-mail
rrrhambercom@aol.com.

Monday, September 26, Wilmington
School and Business Partnership
Annual Golf Tournament, Hillview
Country Club, North Reading, 8:05
a.m. shotgun start, \$125 per player.
Luncheon only, \$30. Call Charlie
Southmayd at 978-604-5124.

Don't miss *these appliance rebates*

If you're in the market for a new appliance, be sure to check out a state rebate program that began July 28. The Massachusetts Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate program offers rebates of \$150 for qualified refrigerators and \$50 for qualified room air conditioners. Rebates are first-come, first-served, and will last until funding is exhausted.

Visit MassEnergyRebates.com before you buy or call toll-free 877-574-1128 to see if funds are available, locate participating retailers, and learn all other program requirements. And remember that RMLD offers rebates on certain Energy Star-rated appliances, too. Visit rmld.com for more information.

Two great *ways to cut your electric bill*



Looking for a great way to save on your electric bill? Install a programmable thermostat. Make sure it's programmed to automatically adjust your home heating and cooling require-

ments for when you're not at home and when you're sleeping.

Also, consider buying an Energy Star rated air conditioner. It can save up to 10% over those that don't display the Energy Star label. Regularly inspect your AC filter so it runs at optimum performance. And be sure to ask a customer specialist about RMLD's rebate offers.

COMMUNITY NEWS



• **Reading Arts Association** will hold a member demonstration by Fran Nola, Dee Birch, Robert Cyr and Judy Hayworth on **Sept. 14, at 7 p.m.**, at the First Congregational Church on Sanborn Street. Refreshments will be served; the public is welcome.

• **Burbank YMCA** has a new 11-week fall session set for **Sept. 11 to Nov. 26**. A Halloween costume swap is also set for **Oct. 7, from 6 to 7 p.m.** The swap is free and open to all. Drop off clean, used Halloween costumes and receive tickets to choose costumes at the swap. For details call 781-944-9622 or visit ymcaboston.org/burbank to see the fall brochure.

• **Reading Public Library** will once again host the popular Vehicle Day in the library parking lot on **Aug. 16, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.**, rain or shine. Also, bring a picnic and join the fun on the library lawn at an end-of-summer concert featuring the Woburn City Band on **Aug. 17, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

• **Flint Memorial Library** in North Reading invites you to join them for Destination Cookies on **Aug. 18, at 2 p.m.** All cookie bakers are asked to share cookies and the memories they evoke. Call Judi Segur at 978-664-4942 for details. Also, Story Time sign-ups begin **Sept. 6**. Story Times begin the week of **Sept. 12** with sessions for infants, toddlers, and pre-schoolers. Call the Children's Room at 978-664-4942 to register.

• **Wilmington Library** will host Strictly Sinatra, an afternoon of music and nostalgia, on **Sept. 13, at 1 p.m.** Join WBZ radio personality, author and humorist Mel Simons as he presents the songs of Old Blue Eyes, Frank Sinatra. The library will also host New England Civil War Discovery Trail on **Oct. 24, at 7 p.m.**, when historian and author Kristie Poehler will discuss the trail that connects New England's Civil War historic sites, cemeteries, museums and monuments.

• **Lynnfield Public Library** plans a Talk Like a Pirate Day party for **Sept. 19, at 3:45 p.m.**, when the group will read about and talk like pirates. There'll be edible pirate booty, and all ages are welcome. A BYO pumpkin decorating party and scary story time is set for **Oct. 19, at 6:30 p.m.** The library will have pumpkin decorating materials available, along with creepy refreshments. All ages are welcome. Visit noblennet.org/lynnfield for details.

• **Stoneham Theater** will present "The Rose and the Rime" on **Aug. 11, 13 & 14**; "Chicago" on **Aug. 12-14**; "Assassins" on **Aug. 12-14**; "Lighten up with Loretta Laroche" on **Aug. 18-21**; "Steel Magnolias" from **Sept. 15-Oct. 2**. Visit stonehamtheater.com or call 781-279-2200 for times and other details.