



GELD HAS MOVED BACK!

To our beautiful new office and garage facilities located at 23 Station Avenue.

Stop by to visit and see our new facilities.

Do we have your current contact information on file?

If not, please call us at 978-448-1150 or email us at info@grotonelectric.org with your cell phone number(s) and/or email address(es). We will only use these for official GELD correspondence such as notifying you of a planned outage or asking a question regarding your account. GELD will **never** sell or publish your information.

GELD received energy saving grants from the State totaling \$98,000

The grants were used to help the Florence Roche Middle School and the Town lower their electric bills.

GELD Manager, Kevin Kelly applied for energy savings grants through the State that totaled \$98,000. Half of the grant was used to upgrade the lighting in the Florence Roche Middle School from T8 to a more efficient T12 fluorescent lighting. The other half was used to purchase energy efficient LED street lights for the Town.

GELD paid for the school's half of the fluorescent lighting upgrade upfront and the school will pay GELD back via a monthly charge on their electric bill for the next three years, four months. Even with the payment, the school will still see a lower electric bill and after the initial costs are paid back, they will save approximately \$22,000 per year (every year) on their electric bill.

The grant also paid for the hardware to convert 225 Town streetlights from High Pressure Sodium (HPS) to LED. The GELD linemen have been installing the new fixtures which include the LED bulbs at no cost to the Town. Since the hardware is being paid for by the grant, the Town will see immediate savings on their yearly street lighting bill to GELD. The grant will not cover the entire Town, so Mr. Kelly will analyze the cost savings of converting the remainder of the town to LED including resident-owned private yard lights to determine if the pay back justifies the capital investment.

These grants are yet another way GELD is helping the Town to save money. In 2014, the Groton Electric Cooperative provided a technology grant of \$100,000 to assist the Groton Dunstable School system with a necessary technology upgrade. Thanks to this GELD-sponsored grant, the tax payers of Groton were not asked to foot the bill. GELD is proud to be able to support the town in a time of need.

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) has been removed from your May bill

Because of lower power costs in the spring and summer, the PCA will be temporarily removed until it is needed again (probably sometime in the fall).

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is a way for Groton Electric to recoup the increased generation costs associated with higher fuel and power prices. The GELD Manager works with the Light Board of Commissioners to set the PCA rate. The primary fuel

[Power Cost Adjustment](#) continued on next page

It's Official!



Matthew Lesser of Groton chose the perfect name for our squirrel weathervane that sits atop our new building—**EDISON!**

GELD held a “Name the Groton Electric Squirrel” contest. Groton Middle School students (grades 5–8) were asked to participate. There were many creative and thoughtful names submitted and choosing the name was not an easy decision. At the March 30, 2015 Board meeting, the Light Board of Commissioners narrowed down the list and chose the name—Edison. Thank you to all the students and teachers who participated in this fun event and a big THANK YOU to Matthew Lesser for submitting the winning name. Matthew will be part of Groton Electric history and will have his name and picture featured in the lobby of our new office and garage facilities.

GELD held a pizza party for Matthew's class—the 5th grade team of Mrs. Sawyer & Mr. Gannon

Thanks to Matthew and his great imagination, his entire 5th grade team enjoyed pizza and ice cream sponsored by Groton Electric Light Department. FUN was had by all!

Power Cost Adjustment continued from previous page

source for electric generation in New England has become natural gas. The price of natural gas used to generate electricity in New England skyrockets in the winter months due to transmission constraints. The Board made the determination to keep the PCA at a lower rate for a longer duration so the effect on ratepayers would not be so overwhelming in December, January, and February when the generation costs are extremely high. The PCA has been monitored and adjusted on a monthly basis to be in line with actual power costs. It was most recently reduced to ½ of \$.01 (\$.005) per kilowatt hour on the April 30, 2015 bill and has been removed from the May 31, 2015 bill until it is needed again (probably sometime in the fall).

Groton Electric is a distribution provider which means it does not generate any of its own electricity. Therefore GELD must rely on a blend of ownership interests in generation projects, power purchase agreements, long-term/short-term power contracts and our wholesale energy agent to purchase power on our behalf. In an effort to ensure stability, the Light Board and Manager monitor and propose power supply options each month to obtain the best value for the ratepayers.

Beware of Possible Scams!



There is a utility scam where a person will call and say they are representing your utility company (i.e. Groton Electric) and they state that your electricity will be terminated if you don't make an immediate payment—then they give specific instructions for making that payment. Sometimes the caller ID will even read “Groton Electric”. These thieves have become very savvy. **DON'T FALL FOR IT!** GELD's termination process includes several steps and a friendly reminder call the day of termination—we will NEVER demand payment. When in doubt, hang up and call our office at 978-448-1150 and speak to Barbara or Tammi.

Also be wary of electric utility offerings that sound “too good to be true”

There have been several companies trying to take advantage of the uncertainty in the electric market. They appear to be offering a reduction on one portion of your electric bill, but are in reality raising that portion of the bill for most of the year. Groton residents are not eligible to participate in these offers because Groton's territory is not open for competition. However, your family and friends in neighboring towns are eligible and may be taken advantage of. Please make people aware of these scams and ask them to read the fine print.

Keep in mind there is a substantial difference between winter and summer rates, so offers that appear like a good deal in the winter may have a substantial cost in the summer.