

Belmont Substation & Transmission Project

With a freshly-paved parking lot and landscaping completed, Belmont's new Blair Pond Substation at 20 Flanders Road has received its Certificate of Occupancy. Additionally, construction of the new 115kV Transmission Line between the electric grid connection at Alewife and the new Blair Pond Substation has been completed, the cable has been pulled through and the splicing and connecting on both ends is currently underway. The planned transfer of ownership of the new transmission line from Belmont Light to Eversource was expected to occur in November and the new transmission line will be energized and put into service in December. Connection of Belmont's full electric delivery system to the newly energized Blair Pond Substation is expected to occur next Spring.



Front façade of the Blair Pond Substation on Flanders Road, facing Brighton Street.



New landscaping at the Blair Pond Substation site, along the Fitchburg Commuter Railway.



One of the transformers at the site of the Blair Pond Substation.

Electric Vehicle Program Drives Belmont into the Future



Belmont residents show off their EVs and answer questions during a Fall Belmont Drives Electric event.

A new community program for Belmont residents, Belmont Drives Electric (BDE), is underway with a goal of promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and "charging smart" throughout town. Sponsored by the Belmont Energy Committee, Belmont Light, Sustainable Belmont, and EV enthusiasts, the program arose as a response to an update to Belmont's Climate Action Plan, which found that transportation was the one

sector of town that not only made up a large portion of greenhouse gas emissions, but also continues to grow instead of shrink.

Envisioned as a way to take on the transportation problem, BDE connects Belmont residents with pre-negotiated lease as well as guidance in tapping into state rebates and federal tax credits that significantly reduce the stress and cost of leasing a new electric vehicle. Volunteer EV Coaches are also available to guide you through the process from start to finish, riding along on test drives, assisting you with all paperwork, and answering any questions that you might have along the way.

Participants in Belmont Drives Electric are also eligible to sign up for Belmont Light's Smart Charger Incentive Program. As part of the program, Belmont Light is offering a discount of up to \$250 off the price of an approved EV smart charger, as well as an annual rebate of approximately 15% off of the retail rate. In addition, Belmont Drives Electric is working with a number of qualified, local electricians to perform the installation of home EV chargers.

"With the Smart Charger Incentive Program, Belmont Light is making an investment that will benefit all of our customers," said Jim Palmer, General Manager of Belmont Light. "By reinforcing positive behavior, we can change the way that Belmont residents think about charging their vehicle and the impact that they are having on the environment as a whole."

Although Belmont Drives Electric has hosted three successful Ride N' Drive events this Fall and will continue to put on events throughout the Winter and Spring, test drives and other program features are available on a continuing basis. For more information on Belmont Drives Electric or to schedule your own test drive, visit www.BelmontDrivesElectric.org or call (617) 855-5405.

Belmont Light's business office will be closed on the following dates:

Monday, December 26 – Christmas holiday observance

Monday, January 2 – New Year's Day holiday observance

Monday, January 16 – Martin Luther King Day

Monday, February 20 – Presidents' Day

If you have an emergency, please call Belmont Light at 617-993-2800.

BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

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Belmont Light's new customer portal and billing system

Belmont Light launched its new customer portal and billing system on Oct. 3rd.

SmartHub, the new customer portal, allows customers to access their electric and water accounts, monitor their usage, set up notifications, initiate and track service requests, and receive important updates from Belmont Light, in addition to a host of other functions.

All customers have received new account numbers for their electric and water bills. Customers can log in to SmartHub to set up their new accounts, using their last name or business name, new account number and an email address. Those customers who have previously set up electronic payments have been contacted by Belmont Light with instructions on how to change their information online. A tutorial is also available on BelmontLight.com.

SmartHub can be accessed through the online portal, as well as through the free mobile app for Apple and Android tablets and smartphones.

"Belmont Light is always striving to provide our customers with state-of-the-art service in a time when technological advances happen on an almost daily basis," General Manager Jim Palmer said. "SmartHub gives our customers new, innovative ways to interact with their electric and water accounts. They will gain knowledge into how they are using electricity and what they can do to save money."

Farmers' Market in Belmont



Aidan Leary, left, Belmont Light Executive Assistant and Communications Coordinator, talked to local residents about the benefits of public power during a recent visit to the Farmers' Market. Aidan was at the event during Public Power Week, an American Public Power Association (APPA) sponsored celebration which helps utilities tout the unique benefits of locally owned and operated utilities, like Belmont Light. Belmont resident Marcia Haines was among many customers who stopped by the Belmont Light table to receive an LED light and to get more information about the utility and ways to save energy throughout the year.



Belmont residents Jack and Evelyn Shumsky stopped by the Belmont Light table at a recent Farmers' Market to talk to Executive Assistant and Communications Coordinator Aidan Leary about Public Power Week and

the importance of being a locally owned and operated utility. The couple also picked up some energy saving materials and information, as well as a Belmont Light shopping bag.

COMMUNITY News...

Come Celebrate the Winter Solstice!

Belmont Light will be Celebrating the Winter Solstice with its customers at the 40 Prince Street office on Thursday, December 15th from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event is open to all Belmont Light customers. All who attend are encouraged to bring a new blanket, bedspread, comforter, or quilt with them to the event to help share the warmth with others in need.

Customers will have an opportunity to share a mug of hot cider or hot chocolate and say hello to special guest Frosty the Snowman.

"We welcome our customers to stop by the 40 Prince Street office to join in the celebration of the winter season," Belmont Light General Manager Jim Palmer said. "We look forward to helping others in need and brightening the night for all Belmont Light customers."

For more information about Celebrating the Winter Solstice, please visit the website www.belmontlight.com or call 617-993-2800.



MEET BELMONT



Palmer, right, welcomed them to the community and answered some of their questions about Belmont Light.

Belmont residents Nancy Mahler, left, and Dan Tuberty, center, stopped by the Belmont Light table at the 14th Annual Meet Belmont to learn more about the utility and its programs, including the popular ENERGY STAR appliance rebate program. Belmont Light General Manager Jim



Belmont Light Senior Customer Service Representative Debra Bottiglio, left, was at the 14th Annual Meet Belmont at the Chenery School, where she met members of the Ayllon family of Belmont. Meet

Belmont provides residents with the opportunity to learn about the Belmont organizations and activities, including town departments, services, recreational programs and opportunities, clubs and town government.