

BRIGHT IDEAS

A monthly newsletter for BELD customers, July 2007

BELD
Braintree Electric
Light Department
and
BELD Broadband

In the market for new appliances this summer? Check out our appliance rebate program before you buy

***We'll help you purchase the latest energy-saving technologies
by providing rebates on ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances***

BELD customers who take advantage of our energy-efficient appliance rebate program can save up to a total of \$150 on ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerators, washing machines, and air conditioners. And you'll continue to save for years to come, because energy-efficient appliances consume up to 50% less electricity than standard models.

It's easy to participate

To participate in BELD's appliance rebate program, download an application at <http://www.beld.com/SiteDocuments/ApplianceRebateForm.pdf> or pick one up at our customer service office at 150 Potter Road. **Rebate eligibility requirements appear on the application form as well—be sure to read them before making your appliance purchase.**

When you purchase your ENERGY STAR qualified refrigerator, air conditioner, or

front-loading washing machine, look for the ENERGY STAR logo on the yellow EnergyGuide



label on the appliance. All appliances should have the yellow EnergyGuide label (which provides energy usage information), but **only models featuring the ENERGY STAR logo are eligible for a rebate.** If there is no label, ask a salesperson for a copy of the energy usage information.

Return the completed form

Fill out the Application for Appliance Rebate. (If you are applying for more than one rebate, you must file a separate form for each appliance.) **Return the completed form to our office, accompanied by a sales receipt that shows the make and model of the appliance and a copy of the EnergyGuide label.** The EnergyGuide label is required for all appliances except central air conditioning.

ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebates

Refrigerators.....\$75
Washing machines...\$50
Air conditioners.....\$50

BELD will verify eligibility

Once BELD has received your form(s) and verified eligibility, we will credit your electric account the rebated amount. You will receive a letter in the mail notifying you when the credit will appear on your bill.

BELD is committed to helping you save energy. Our business is generating and delivering electricity, but our first concern is our customers, and we want you to live in a clean environment, with money in your pocket.

Call our Energy Advisor at 781.348.1032 for information about some of the other ways we promote energy efficiency. We'll help you get the answers you need to make intelligent choices about your home energy use.



BELD's General Manager visits Washington, DC

GM Bill Bottiggi recently visited Washington, DC, to participate in the Legislative Rally sponsored by the American Public Power Association (APPA).

Each year BELD meets with staffers from the offices of Representatives Edward Markey, Stephen Lynch and others to bring them up-to-date on what's happening at Braintree Electric Light Department.

This year's DC visit happened to coincide with Congressional meetings organized by the South Shore Chamber of Commerce. Senator Ted Kennedy welcomed the Massachusetts delegation on their last afternoon in the nation's capitol. (Kennedy and Bottiggi are pictured above.)

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Real Estate taxes are due August 1

Braintree taxpayers are reminded that Real Estate Taxes are due for the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2008 on **August 1**. These bills were mailed on or before July 1 and must be paid by August 1 in order to avoid late charges. If you have questions or wish to obtain a copy of your bill, please call the Tax Collector's Office at 781.794.8130. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. A drop box is located in front of Town Hall for your convenience.

Braintree Park Department trips

Sunday, August 12: Clambake at Maine's Cabbage Island, depart Town Hall at 7 a.m., Freeport & Boothbay Harbor (\$99/person).

Sunday, August 19: Block Island day trip, bus tour, lunch, shopping (\$89/person).

Saturday, August 25: Connecticut River riverboat cruise & train ride, depart Town Hall at 8:30 a.m., lunch at Griswold Inn (\$89/person).

Friday-Sunday, September 7-9: Red Sox at Baltimore Orioles, motor coach transportation, two nights accommodations, two games, many extras (\$369/person, twin).

For info/reservations, stop by the Park Department at 249 Union Street or call 781.794.8901.

Braintree Autism Network

Braintree Autism Network for our Daughters and Sons, BANDS Together, will meet on **Monday, August 13, 7:30 p.m.**, at Emmanuel Parish in Braintree, 519 Washington Street. The meeting is open to all parents or guardians of children who live in Braintree and have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or live elsewhere but attend school in Braintree and have an ASD. There is no cost or obligation, and membership is confidential.

The purpose of this group is to provide an opportunity for parents to network and support each other while working together to address needs in our community. Meetings often feature speakers from the community and are an opportunity to connect with other parents. A Yahoo Group has also been established to share information with group members. Call Natasha Chomas for more information at 781.356.4740.

Free evening legal clinic at Quincy District Court

Do you have a legal question or concern? As a service to the community, the Bar Association of Norfolk County is sponsoring a free legal clinic at the Quincy District Court on **Tuesday, August 14, 6-8 p.m.** Area residents seeking legal advice will have the opportunity to meet with an attorney in a private, confidential, one-on-one consultation. The clinics are operated on a walk-in basis—"first come, first served." For more information, call Adrienne Clarke, Executive Director, Bar Association of Norfolk County, at 617.471.9693.

First Annual B.A.S.E. and Roselyn Karll Charity Golf Tournament

The First Annual Braintree After School Enrichment (B.A.S.E.) and Roselyn Karll Charity Golf Tournament will be held **Monday, August 20**, at the Braintree Municipal Golf Course. We are raising money for the B.A.S.E. program and, in addition, we hope to fund a new scholarship—the Roselyn Karll Memorial Scholarship—to be given to a Braintree High School senior continuing their education in the Early Childhood field.

For more information about B.A.S.E. and the golf tournament application (**deadline: August 13**), please go to our website at www.basekids.com or call Alysa Rynne or Meridith Duffy at 781.849.3484.

Volunteers are needed at Braintree Community Youth Center

Volunteers are needed at the recently opened Braintree Community Youth Center, 74 Pond Street, to work the registration desk, the snack bar, and the activities area. The center is open Fridays, 6-9 p.m., and Saturdays, 6-11 p.m., and we ask for a minimum commitment of one night a month. Contact Angela Geso at 617.957.2726 or aferriss@townofbraintreegov.org.

The American Red Cross is looking for platelet donors

The Red Cross Donor Center on Forbes Road in Braintree invites you to become part of their "pheresis" program—a specific type of donation that uses updated medical technology to collect donor platelets and then return the remaining blood components, including the red cells, to the donor. **The entire process takes about two hours**, including registration, medical history, and post-donation refreshments.

Pheresis donors can give platelets every two weeks, as opposed to eight weeks for a whole blood donation, and many of our donors come in on a regular basis. **There is a constant need for platelets, as they can be stored for only five days.** Type A donors are especially valuable, as they are the universal donor for platelets.

The American Red Cross relies heavily on their volunteer donors. For more information on how you can participate, please call the Donor Center at 781.794.1800 or Recruitment Representative Diane Donnarumma at 781.710.2450.

Braintree High School All-Class Reunion is October 13

The 7th Annual Braintree High School All-Class Reunion is planned for **Saturday, October 13**, at the Sons of Italy Hall in Braintree. A social hour will begin at 6 p.m., and dinner by Fasano's will be served at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30. Call Barbara Norris at 781.335.7567 for reservations.

BELD

www.beld.com
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PAYMENT LOCATIONS 150 Potter Road

Our office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Customer Service is open until 7 p.m. on Thursday.

Drop boxes

Top of Potter Road & Town Hall.

Braintree Cooperative Bank
1010 Washington St.
372 Washington St.

Direct Payment

Call BELD at 781.348.2353.

Online payments

www.beld.com

BROADBAND HELP DESK

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sat-Sun: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

Public Meetings are usually held monthly. Call 781.348.2353 or check www.beld.com to confirm time and date.

COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Reynolds, Chair
Anthony Agnitti, Vice Chair
James Regan, Secretary

HOLIDAY CLOSING

Wednesday, July 4
Independence Day



It's a jungle out there!!

Overgrown shrubs in the vicinity of electric meters can create a problem for BELD's meter readers. You can help ensure that your electricity usage will be read accurately by trimming the bushes and shrubs near your meter.