

Highlights from Marblehead Municipal Light Department and YOU!

Sustainable Marblehead would like to thank everyone who joined us for our webinar on the **Marblehead Municipal Light Department and YOU**. We thank Marblehead Light Commissioner Lisa Wolf for her detailed presentation and Sustainable Marblehead Board member Jean-Jacques Yarmoff for his facilitation of the question-and-answer session. There was a lot of information presented, so if you missed the presentation or would like to review it, click here to watch the video recording: tinyurl.com/smlisa1

Below are some key points from Lisa's presentation:

- Global temperatures reached record highs in 2020. In the U.S., the damage from 22 major weather events cost the nation \$95 billion in 2020 alone, and trends suggest the costs associated with not addressing the climate crisis will only continue to rise.
- Massachusetts will require 100% of car sales to be electric by 2035. There is no need to wait--when it's time to replace your current car, consider going electric. To learn more about the EV market, visit <https://www.greenenergyconsumers.org/drivegreen>. For Marblehead residents, MMLD is offering EV discounts and charger rebates (visit <https://www.marbleheadelectric.com/ev-vehicles-chargers.html> to learn more) and installing public EV charging stations at various locations in town. Two public chargers are already available in the MMLD parking lot on Commercial Street; others will be installed along Roundhouse Road behind Warwick Place and at the Mary Alley Municipal Building.
- Currently, the percentage of our electricity that comes from non-carbon emitting sources is 47.9%, an increase of almost 8% over the past five years. MMLD anticipates increasing the percentage of renewable energy in

their portfolio by adding community solar (solar on public buildings and land), encouraging individual solar installations (solar on people's homes), and purchasing hydropower from Canada and offshore wind to reach 100% non-emitting sources by as early as 2035, pending federal and state permitting.

- Homeowners can improve the energy efficiency of their homes by performing energy audits, updating insulation, and purchasing energy-efficient and smart appliances that can be connected and controlled wirelessly. Homeowners can reduce their fossil fuel use by converting oil or gas heating systems to heat pumps or geothermal, stoves to electric or induction, and hot water heaters to electric. MMLD is supporting these efforts by offering free energy audits, Energy Star appliance rebates, and home energy improvement incentives. MMLD also offers rebates on "cold climate" air source heat pumps for heating and cooling.

Visit <https://www.marbleheadelectric.com/rebates-incentives.html> for more information.

- Residents are encouraged to monitor and reduce their electricity use during daily and seasonal peak demand periods. Daily peaks occur between 4 and 8 p.m.; seasonal peaks occur on the hottest and coldest days of the year. Our electricity rates are determined in part by our use of electricity during these seasonal peak demand periods. To be notified of peak demands, sign up to receive peak demand alerts sent by MMLD and consider purchasing and enrolling smart appliances such as thermostats, hot water heaters, air source heat pumps, home batteries, and EV chargers with the Connected Homes program. Visit <https://munihelps.org/what-we-do/helps-connected-homes/> to learn more and enroll. Electricity provided during peak periods comes from the dirtiest, costliest power plants, so it is in the planet's and our best interests to shift our use to off-peak times.

- Finally, a not so fun fact—the U.S. has approximately 4% of the world's population, yet we are responsible for over 20% of the world's consumption of energy.

We greatly appreciate your thoughtful questions and comments, and we regret that time did not allow us to answer each and every one of your questions. Please contact us at sustainablemarblehead@gmail.com if your question was not addressed.

Thank you for joining us to learn how you can be a partner in our and MMLD's efforts to reduce carbon emissions in Marblehead!