



Connections

The Newsletter of Easton Utilities

Spring 2017



410-822-6110 (24/7)

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday,
8:00am-4:30pm

Easton Velocity:
410-763-9400

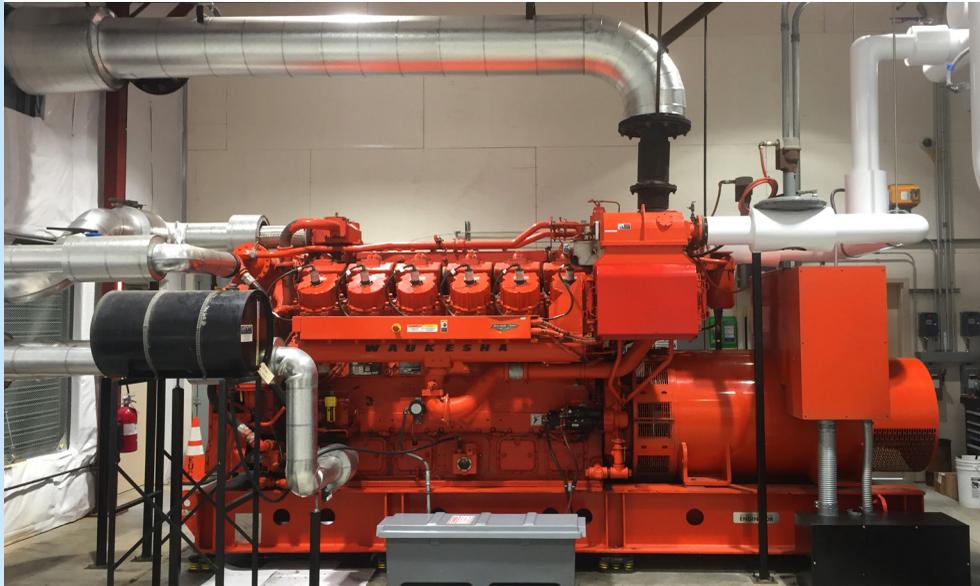
eastonutilities.com

201 N. Washington St.
Easton, MD 21601



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Landfill Gas goes GREEN!



Easton Utilities has officially commissioned a Landfill Gas to Electric Generator, by utilizing the naturally occurring methane gas coming from the landfill and converting it to green energy. "This project is mutually beneficial for the environment, our customers, and the Town of Easton," stated Hugh E. Grunden, President & CEO of Easton Utilities.

Easton Utilities purchased a previously operated generator from the Worcester County Landfill, which created a very cost-effective solution. The expected life of the project in Easton is approximately eight to ten years, depending on the landfill's ability to produce methane gas. Currently, landfill gas is extracted continuously and most of the gas is sent to the generator, which can produce up to one megawatt of electricity – enough to power approximately 700 homes.

Maryland Environmental Service (MES) installed compressors at the landfill and is handling the logistics regarding supply and flow. "In the true sense of an ideal partnership, MES and Easton Utilities collaborated on this project from concept to completion," added John E. Hines, Supervisor of Electrical Engineering, Design, and Maintenance for Easton Utilities.

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Be Aware.

Be Alert.

Be Informed.

There are clever schemes created every day in an attempt to deceive people. It is hard to determine what is real and what may be fraud.

To keep yourself safe, exercise caution at all times and consider the following:

- Does the offer want private information or offer something 'too good to be true'? If so, it is probably a scam.
- Always confirm you are on the correct site when paying bills online.
- Read carefully and pay attention to small print.
- Take a minute to reflect and consider the source of the 'offer'. Ask yourself if it seems reasonable.

There are some very sophisticated methods being used making it more difficult to determine what is legitimate. Stay informed and pay attention so you are not a victim.

Visit www.consumer.ftc.gov/scam-alerts to learn more about recent scams.

Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) Designation from APPA

Easton Utilities has earned a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3) designation from the American Public Power Association for providing reliable and safe electric service. Only 3% of more than 2,000 APPA public power members received the Diamond Level designation - the highest a utility can achieve. "Being recognized by the APPA RP3 Program demonstrates commitment to our customers, community, and employees and is an indication of a utility's commitment to excellence in all facets of its operations," said Arnold R. Boughner, Jr., Electric Department Manager of Easton Utilities.



The RP3 program recognizes utilities that demonstrate high proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development and system improvement. Criteria within each of the four RP3 areas are based upon sound business and recognized industry-leading practices. "Achieving the highest level of designation speaks to the quality of our operating practices and I am proud of our entire team for this accomplishment," said Hugh E. Grunden, President & CEO of Easton Utilities.

TOP 5 WAYS

EASTON UTILITIES

is helping conserve our environment

- 1 LED Street Light Replacement
- 2 Natural Gas Vehicles
- 3 Internal Recycling Program
- 4 Tree Plantings
- 5 Easton Sustainability Campus





Denny Clough Retires

Just one month shy of completing 44 years of service, Dennis George Clough retired as the Superintendent of Electrical Maintenance for Easton Utilities on February 15th. Mr. Clough began his career in the Electric Department as part of the underground line crew in March 1973. After several transfers and promotions, he spent the last 18 years of his career as the Superintendent of Electrical Maintenance.

Power Up Program – FUNDS AVAILABLE!

Easton Utilities and Habitat for Humanity Choptank have teamed up to help low- and moderate-income homeowners improve energy efficiency and lower their monthly utility bills. Applications will be reviewed and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and projects funded up to the limit of the funds available from the Maryland Energy Administration.



&

Life. Made better.™

— Present —

THE POWER UP PROGRAM

Should I apply?

Under the terms of the Maryland Energy Administration grant, the Power Up Program is available to low and moderate income residential homeowners who meet the following criteria:

- Do you own (name on title) and live in the home?
- Do you make a “low” or “moderate” income? For example: a family of four living in Talbot county must make less than \$67,050 to qualify for the program.
- Do you have, or can you get homeowner’s insurance?
- Are you UNABLE to afford necessary weatherization or repairs, or are otherwise unable to complete them due to age, disability, or circumstance?

If you answered “Yes” to these questions, you may qualify for the Power Up Program. To be considered for participation in the program, please call **410-819-3412** or email Grants@eucmail.com to receive an application.

Did you know?

Natural Gas is safe, convenient, versatile...and can save you money!

Here are the latest cost comparisons (BTU equivalent) from local suppliers:

EU Natural Gas

\$1.025*

Home Heating Oil

\$2.17/gal

Propane

\$2.94/gal

*Using 2016 avg "energy charge" and existing residential base rate



Customer Safety Notice

Please read this important notice carefully.

It is the customer's responsibility to monitor, maintain and make any necessary repairs to their gas fuel piping and any portion of the natural gas service line which may be buried downstream of your gas meter.

Buried gas piping must be:

- Periodically inspected for leaks.
- Periodically inspected for corrosion if the piping is metallic
- Repaired if any unsafe condition is discovered. When excavating near buried gas piping, the piping should be located in advance by calling 811 and the excavation done by hand.

Any questions regarding this notice should be directed to:

James Crowley
Manager Gas Department
410-763-9492
jcrowley@eucmail.com

Easton Velocity provides Gigabit Connectivity

The expansive fiber optic network throughout the Town of Easton is providing gigabit speed to entities such as public health and education. Easton Velocity, a service of Easton Utilities, had a proactive mindset years ago when upgrading the cable system. "Broadband is as critical to Easton



as electricity, gas and water, especially for businesses," said Ted L. Book, Director of Cable and Communications for Easton Utilities. "We recognized the expectation for increasing speed early on and made gigabit speed available to those for whom it was essential."

Easton Velocity will continue to roll out enhanced services to businesses in order to maintain the economic vitality in Easton. As it is important to focus on the needs of the business community in the Town of Easton, system plans are being established to respond to requests from residents as well. Easton Velocity strives to continue offering the latest technology and innovations to its entire service territory.



EASTON UTILITIES makes life...



Warmer . . . Brighter . . . Cleaner

GET CONNECTED!

Follow Easton Utilities to get the latest news and information!

- Outage alerts
- Project updates
- Community news
- Energy tips



Committed to our Community

In keeping with our mission to enhance the quality of life in our community, Easton Utilities is proud to support many local organizations and events including:

Brighter Christmas Fund

American Cancer Society

TCPS Education Foundation

Empty Bowls

Junior Achievement
of the Eastern Shore

MLK Basketball Classic