

# ***News Brief:***

## **Weekend storm keeps MG&E crews busy & some customers in the dark.**



A treacherous combination of heavy rain and strong wind on Saturday brought down trees, poles and power lines in several areas of Middleborough and Lakeville, keeping MG&E electric crews busy well into Sunday morning. The Department called in 4 crews and extra help starting with the first outage just after 9:00 am Saturday.

The National Weather Service recorded rainfall amounts of 4 inches and a high wind gust of 46 miles per hour in Taunton for the day. The rain saturated the ground, loosening tree roots and wind gusts toppled trees, causing 3 of the Department's 9 circuits to lose power at various times. Some of the damage had to be spotted by surveying lines on foot in the more wooded South Middleborough area.

The Department estimates that 1,500 to 2,200 customers were without power at some point during the storm. Crews continued to repair wires and set poles throughout the day and night, even as midnight winds continued to gust to 28 miles per hour, until all customers were back on by 3 am.

On Sunday, by 3 pm, winds were again gusting to over 40 miles per hour and more sporadic outages kept electric crews busy throughout the Department's 100 square-mile service area.

*Monday, October 30, 2006*