

# the Messenger

A newsletter from Middleborough Gas & Electric Department August 2007

Community-owned since 1893

## HomeWorks: generator safety

**Portable generators** have two dangers – carbon monoxide poisoning and electric shock. Poisoning happens when colorless and odorless generator exhaust builds up in a home or enclosed area. Electric shock can kill if power backfeeds into your home's wiring – especially if you plug the generator into a wall socket – and someone assumes power is off. *Utility workers have been electrocuted when that power flows into utility lines.*

Always follow the safety rules that come with your generator. To find out more, call us or go online to [USFA.dhs.gov](http://USFA.dhs.gov) and click on Citizens > All Citizens > Carbon Monoxide > Portable Generator Hazards.



## What you need to know: don't post on poles

We are asking all citizens of Middleborough and Lakeville to stop posting signs on our utility poles. The signs and their fasteners pose a hazard to our linecrews and may cover important ID information that we need to see on the poles. Please help us serve you better and keep everyone safe. Signs belong in the ground, not on poles!

## Did you miss a Messenger?

We keep five years of back issues of *the Messenger* listed on our website and archived as PDF files. Visitors can click on News & Weather > Messenger Newsletter to see this edition. Then click on View Archives in the upper right to see a listing of past editions. So if you thought you saw something interesting last month – or last year – you can find it there: [MGandEonline.com](http://MGandEonline.com).

## .Sidebar stats:

The Great Hurricane  
of **1938**

They **do** happen here!

**186** mph

Peak wind gust measured at the Blue Hill Observatory, Milton, Mass.

**50** feet

Peak wave height recorded at Gloucester, Mass.

**2** billion (approx.)

Trees destroyed in New England

**8,900**

Buildings and homes destroyed, New England and Long Island

**600+**

New England residents lost

Source: NOAA weather site – visit [MGandEonline.com](http://MGandEonline.com) and Check the Weather to enter their site and monitor any coming hazardous weather conditions.

**Town Times:**  
museum passes

Looking for one more thing to do this summer? Check out the Museum of Science before everyone goes back to school. Their IMAX theater is presenting a film festival on Labor Day weekend. A new exhibit moves in on September 30 – CSI: The Experience.

Passes that admit four visitors for \$5 each, saving \$34, are available at the Middleborough Public Library. Museum of Science passes are sponsored by MG&E. You can now reserve your pass online by visiting [MGandEonline.com](http://MGandEonline.com) and clicking on Our Community > Community Links for the library's website link.



**How much does it cost to stay cool?** You may be surprised. Check out your options in the chart below.



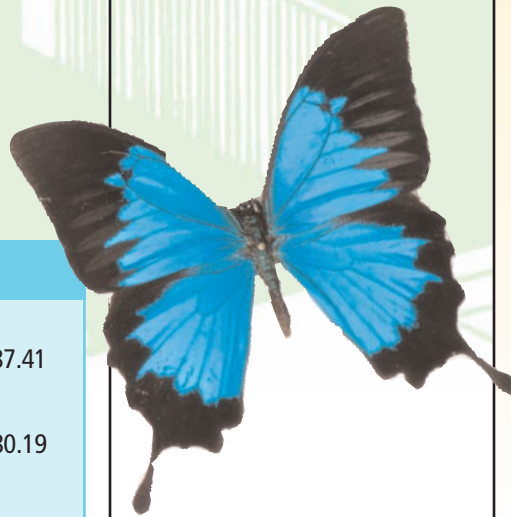
**Do you do this?**

Do you pull out your window air conditioner when the first hot day arrives and forget the filters need cleaning but run it anyway?

**Do this instead:**

Buy a supply of replacement filters to change them before you install your AC each year. You can easily get their cost back in energy savings.

*Stop by the butterfly garden at the Museum of Science to see a tropical oasis with butterflies from across New England and around the globe.*



**What uses more energy?**

<b>Central air conditioner</b> 185 hours on per month	648 KwH*	\$ 87.41
<b>5 room air conditioners</b> 165 hours per month	660 KwH	\$ 80.19
<b>5 ceiling fans</b> 120 hours per month	60 KwH	\$ 8.10
<b>Large dehumidifier</b> 340 hours per month	221 KwH	\$ 29.84**

Source: [MGandEonline.com](http://MGandEonline.com) > Appliance Calculator  
\*kilowatt-hours \*\*Drier air feels cooler naturally.

**DIRECTORY**

**Customer Service & Billing**  
508-947-1371

**Gas Service Questions**  
508-947-1535

**Electric Service Questions**  
508-947-3023

**Emergency:**

**Gas** 508-947-1535

**Electric** 508-947-3023

**Payment locations:**

**Main office:**

32 S. Main St.,  
Middleborough  
8:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Pay Boxes:**

**Main office parking lot**

32 S. Main St.,  
Middleborough

**Oak Point**

Middleborough

**Savas Plaza**

Route 18, Lakeville

**Stop 'N Shop Plaza**

Route 28,  
Middleborough

**Holiday Closing:**

Monday, September 3  
Labor Day

**Commission Meetings:**

Meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Administrative Offices at 32 S. Main St., Middleborough. Please call 508-947-1371 to confirm dates and times.

**MIDDLEBOROUGH**  
Gas and Electric Department  
[www.MGandEonline.com](http://www.MGandEonline.com)