



# connections

*Earns national recognition*

## GU honored for reliable electric operations

Groton Utilities has earned a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3)<sup>®</sup>

designation from the American Public Power Association for providing reliable and safe electric service.

David Lynch, Assistant Director of Utility Operations at Marquette Board of Light and Power, Michigan and chair of the Association's RP3 Review Panel, presented GU's designation during the Association's recent Engineering & Operations Technical Conference held in San Antonio, Texas.

Groton Utilities was one of 110 municipal electric utilities to receive the RP3 designation and one of 42 to receive the Platinum Designation.

"Utilities that have earned an RP3 designation demonstrate public power's emphasis on achieving leading practices and providing a high level of service to communities," said Lynch.

The RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power

utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, workforce



development and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

"We're honored to be recognized as a Reliable Public Power Provider," said GU Director of Utilities Ron Gaudet. "Our staff at Groton Utilities works hard to provide reliable service and RP3 recognizes our commitment to serving the community."

This is the fourth time in 12 years that Groton Utilities has received this RP3 recognition. In 2007, Groton Utilities was the only New England public power system to receive the Platinum Level Award. Groton Utilities received a Gold Designation in 2005.

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# GU earns RP3 designation (from page 1)

“This recognition is a testament to the quality work our employees do every day. It emphasizes our employees’ commitment to excellence and performance,” said Gaudet.

“It is especially important for our customers to understand the level of our commitment to reliability, safety, training and system improvement,” he added. “Today’s energy environment will continue to challenge us and other utilities across the country, but we believe our mission as a public power utility will continue to allow us to meet the challenges.”



## WINNING SMILES

*Accepting a national award for reliable electric operations on behalf of Groton Utilities are, from left, Matthew Lyon, Leader Lineman; Dawn Renaldi, Executive Assistant – Electric; and Vernon Page, Line Crew Chief.*

## Water treatment—the next generation

The next generation of water treatment is upon us. City voters have approved the necessary funding to finance \$54 million in improvements to GU’s water treatment facility. Long in planning, the four-year project will begin shortly, when R. H. White Construction Co. breaks ground for the project.



water, allowing Groton Utilities to continue the tradition of providing the highest quality product to our customers.

The renovations include upgrades in the water treatment process, adding two water storage tanks to improve distribution services, and physical improvements to the facility.

The project is designed to meet emerging and future standards for quality drinking

Funding for the renovations includes a \$15 million grant from the State of

Connecticut Department of Public Health and \$40 million from the Connecticut Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Program. Higher revenues helped by water rate increases of about four percent during the next few years complete the financing mixture. Increased water sales to communities outside of the Greater Groton Community are expected to improve revenues and add to GU’s role as a regional water supplier.

## Hydrant flushing scheduled

Groton Utilities Water Division’s water main flushing and cleaning program has begun and should be completed by Thursday, June 22, weather permitting.

The schedule will be published in The Day newspaper the week before flushing. You can also get flushing updates and the schedule online at [grotonutilities.com](http://grotonutilities.com) or on Facebook ([facebook.com/grotonutilities](https://facebook.com/grotonutilities)). Work will take place between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. There will be no water main flushing during evening hours.

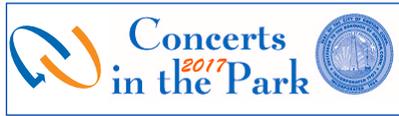
Due to the size of the water mains, all Groton Utilities customers should expect intermittent intervals of water

discoloration during the water main flushing process.

The water is safe to drink. Discoloration is due to the disturbance of naturally occurring minerals that have settled in the water mains. However, because of discoloration, Groton Utilities advises customers to store tap water in the refrigerator for drinking and cooking until the water clears up and to delay doing laundry if your water is discolored.

Dates and areas may vary slightly due to severe weather or other emergencies. For updates and changes, please visit us online at [grotonutilities.com](http://grotonutilities.com).

# Summer Concerts in the Park



Concerts in the Park returns to Washington Park in the City of Groton this summer, so mark your calendar and plan for some family fun.

These FREE concerts all start on Fridays at 6:30 p.m. at Washington Park in the City of Groton. They're co-sponsored and co-produced by Groton Utilities and the City of Groton Parks and Recreation Department.

All are welcome to stop by, maybe bring a picnic supper, and even dance on the basketball court if you like. The City of Groton Little League also sells food and drink at the concerts.

Find the complete Concerts in the Park 2017 schedule during the season online at [grotonutilities.com](http://grotonutilities.com)

and at [cityofgroton.com](http://cityofgroton.com). For updates or cancellation notices, call the concert hotline at 860-446-4129.

## 2017 Concert Schedule

June 16 .....The Cartells	July 14 .....The Rock and Soul Revue
June 23 .....Jay Dempsey Band	July 21 .....Mass-Conn Fusion
June 30 .....Coastline Swing Band	July 28 .....9Teen
July 7 .....Rewind	

No concert on August 4, City of Groton Day. Rain dates are August 11 and August 18.

## Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award

# Final call to nominate candidates

Nominations close June 30 for the thirteenth annual Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award. This is your opportunity to honor a local volunteer whose work makes a difference in our community.

Applications are at the City of Groton Municipal Building, 295 Meriden St., and at [grotonutilities.com](http://grotonutilities.com). You can also call us at 860-446-4000 to have one mailed to you.

Groton Utilities established the award during our 2004 Centennial year to honor a member of the community who has contributed his or her time, energy and resources to make our area a better place in which to live and work.

We named the award to celebrate the community service of the late Jacqueline B. Nixon, a local resident who operated a food pantry at her home for 24 years. Like Jackie, each

nominee's personal efforts should exemplify the Groton Utilities commitment to "giving back to the community." This includes contributions to the community that demonstrate generosity, commitment and service.

Nominees should live in Greater Groton, which includes the City, the Town, and any of the subdivisions or fire districts. Groton Utilities will present the award on August 4 during City of Groton Day 2017 at Washington Park.

Earle A. Williams received the first annual Jacqueline B. Nixon Community Service Award. Other award winners are: Robert "Bob" Leeney, Mimi Orkney, Lillian "Lil" Hansen, Sarah Stanley, William "Bill" Welsh, Jr., Alfred Restivo, Robert "Bob" Austin LaFrance, Archie Swindell, Milly Carlson, Lian Obrey, Jim Streeter and Charlie Eppinhaus.

# Please don't post it on our poles

It's party and yard sale season, and we know you want to publicize your big day. But please—don't use utility poles to post signs, posters, balloons or anything else.

Nails, staples and other items attached to poles can catch and tear protective clothing, making it more dangerous for our

lineworkers to complete critical tasks. The debris also damages poles and creates a public eyesore.

Metallic balloons are especially hazardous, since they conduct electricity and can wreak havoc if they touch power lines. They should always be kept indoors.

## Holiday Closings

Our offices at the City Municipal Building, including Customer Service, and our Operational Sections, including Project Management, located at The Julio H. Leandri Operations Complex on Poquonnock Road, will be closed for these upcoming holidays:

### Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day

### Monday, September 4

Labor Day

### Monday, October 9

Columbus Day

Our operations crews for both water and electric are available for emergencies during holidays. If you experience an electrical outage or a water main break, call us at 860-446-4000, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Customer Service lobby hours are Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Groton Utilities hopes you and your family have enjoyable holidays. But, please drive safely. And, yes, don't forget to buckle up!



## GROTON UTILITIES

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### Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statement

Federal and State law prohibits employment discrimination. It is the policy of the City of Groton to comply with the laws which prohibit discrimination as to race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, marital status, national origin, ancestry, veteran status, history of mental disorder, mental retardation or any other legally protected class.

# Water quality report now available online

Each year, Groton Utilities distributes a copy of our Annual Water Quality Report to our customers. The report summarizes water quality results from the previous year and contains information about the source and treatment of your drinking water.



We have posted the 2016 Annual Water Quality Report on our website instead of

printing and mailing it to you. For the fourth consecutive year, we have taken the more environmentally friendly means of distributing the report.

Groton Utilities encourages you to take some time to read this important information. To view or print the online report, visit [grotonutilities.com/waterqualityreport/?year=2016](http://grotonutilities.com/waterqualityreport/?year=2016).

If you would prefer that a paper copy be mailed to you, please call us at 860-446-4000 to request a copy.

Please share this important water quality information with other water users at your location who do not receive a bill.

## Please read this Shut-Off Notice alert

If you are a Groton Utilities customer, you need to read this Shut-Off Notice alert:

Groton Utilities shuts off both water and electric services, if the past due amount is not paid by the disconnect date printed on the Shut-Off Notice.

If service is disconnected for non-payment, you will need to pay the entire account balance, a connection fee up to \$195 plus a deposit before service will be restored.

Groton Utilities offers e-Care, our online bill payment system for your

convenience. To get started, visit [grotonutilities.com](http://grotonutilities.com) and click "Pay Your Bill" and follow the instructions. All the information you need to sign up for e-Care is on your bill, so you will want to have a copy of your bill handy.

You can always pay your bill in person at our Customer Service Center at 295 Meridian St. at the City of Groton Municipal Building during normal business hours. Our office hours are Monday to Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. GU's telephone number is 860-446-4000.