



## NEWS RELEASE

MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL WHOLESALE ELECTRIC COMPANY

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### **MMWEC Educates Randall Boys & Girls Club Campers on Electrical Safety**

Ludlow, MA – June 27, 2025- Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club campers are now educated on the prevention of electrical accidents courtesy of a presentation taught by safety expert Ray Gouley from the R.F. Gouley Company. The program is sponsored by the Ludlow-based Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC).

This year, 174 children aged three to 13 from the Massachusetts communities of Ludlow, Belchertown, Bondsville, Chicopee, Monson, Holyoke, Springfield, Granby, South Hadley, Brimfield, Monson, Wilbraham, East Longmeadow, Agawam, and Ware, participated in the program. MMWEC has sponsored the workshop for more than 17 years and holds a similar electrical and gas pipeline safety presentation for the Ludlow Senior Center annually.

Gouley utilizes several different types of media during his presentations including posters, videos, and props. The presentations begin with an interactive safety video that takes children through each step of an electrical accident and guides them on how to respond. To further demonstrate the importance of electrical safety, Gouley shows the campers props from actual electrical accidents, such as a melted bike tire that ran over an electrical wire. He explains to them what happened and how the accident could have been avoided.

Due to the large age range of campers, Gouley adjusts his presentation based on the campers' ages. Preschoolers, the youngest group, are introduced to a squirrel cartoon character named "Mr. Ouch" and taught the simple phrase "Stop, Think, and Stay Away" to respond to various electrical incidents. Older children are given more specific instructions on how to react in electric safety situations, such as staying three poles away from a damaged utility pole and keeping electronics away from bathtubs and sinks. They are also instructed on what items to keep away from power lines, such as balloons, drones, and super soakers.

The safety presentations culminated with a visit from South Hadley Electric Light Department (SHELD) employees Assistant General Manager Collin Gallagher and Operations Manager Brian Jerome. They brought SHELD's bucket truck to the Boys and Girls Club campus to explain how the truck is used to reach power lines during accidents or power outages.

"I would like to thank MMWEC for sponsoring the electrical safety presentations each year at the club," says Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club President and Chief Executive Officer Josue Irizarry. "It is very important to teach children on what to do when they see down power lines, the warning signs of gas leaks, and to wear helmets when riding scooters and e-bikes."

MMWEC is a not-for-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts created by an Act of the General Court in 1975 and authorized to issue tax-exempt debt to finance a wide range of energy facilities. MMWEC provides a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state's consumer-owned, municipal utilities. It is the largest provider of asset-owned generation for municipal light departments in New England.

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