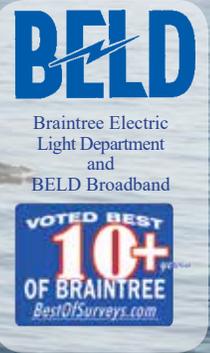


BRIGHT IDEAS



A monthly newsletter for BELD & BELD Broadband customers, published August 2019

1G is coming! 1G is coming!

BELD Broadband is excited to announce the launch of 1 gigabit per second (1 Gbps or 1 Gig) internet service. **This new service will be 10 times faster than our popular 100 Mbps Internet**, which means you can connect more devices, stream more shows and download more music—all faster than ever.

When choosing the best Internet service to meet your needs, consider the number of devices that might be using it simultaneously. Laptops, mobile devices, smart TVs, gaming consoles, streaming boxes like Roku or Apple TV—plus the smart home devices mentioned above—all depend on reliable

Internet service to keep them going. The more devices and people using them, the more speed and bandwidth you'll need.

Just how fast is 1 Gig Internet? This chart shows the average download speeds for some of the most com-

mon activities, so you can see for yourself!

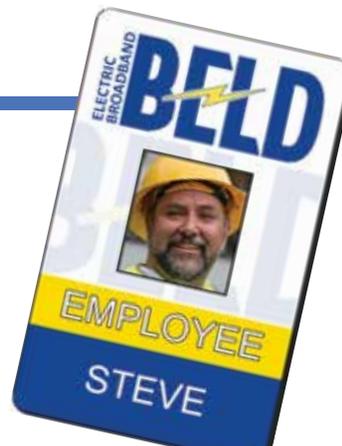
Our new 1Gig service will be available in the coming weeks, when pricing and other details will be announced. If you feel the need for more speed right now and just can't wait that long, contact us at 348.BELD (2353) or visit beld.net/100new for info on our 100 Mbps service today. **It's just \$39.95 for the first year for new customers.**

	60 Mbps Fast	100 Mbps Faster	1 Gig Fastest
Devices	5	8	20 or More
2-hour movie 4 GB	9 mins	6 mins	40 secs
100 songs 5 MB each	1 min	40 secs	4 secs
45-min HD TV show 600 MB	2 mins	50 secs	5 secs
100 photos 200 MB	28 secs	17 secs	2 secs
Latest video game 40 GB	90 mins	50 mins	5 mins

When it comes to Internet service, it's not just about speed. The bandwidth to support your connected devices is just as important. 1 Gig service not only gives you faster download speeds, but it also provides a wider communication channel to support multiple devices streaming, browsing and gaming all at the same time. This is especially important given all the smart devices being used in homes today. Thermostats, smart appliances, speakers ... these devices also need enough speed and bandwidth to function efficiently.

Always ask for identification

All Braintree Electric Light Department personnel carry photo identification cards. Never let anyone claiming to represent your utility company enter your home without first showing his or her I.D. If you have a question about a BELD I.D., call our office at 781.348.BELD (2353).



2018 in review



BELD's 2018 Annual Report is now available online at beld.com. You'll find all the Annual Reports at the bottom of the "Newsletters and community notices" page.

The report provides detailed financial information as well as highlights of activities from the previous year. We hope you enjoy reading it!

EV rebate ending... and they're still affordable!

With prices for electric vehicles (EVs) now dropping to a competitive level in Massachusetts, and a major uptick in EV purchases last year, the State has decided to end its \$1500 rebate program through MOR-EV.

Although this is unfortunate for those of us who would love to shave off some money on an EV purchase, the truth is we don't necessarily need it anymore. Local dealers like Quirk Chevy are offering their Bolt EVs for as low as \$24,745 before any state or federal incentives. BELD customers can also get \$5,000 off a Nissan LEAF. **The Bolt and LEAF are just two of around a dozen plug-in electrics you can buy locally for under \$25k**, not including the state rebate. And as the technology for building EVs improves, the price will continue to go down.

According to Green Car Reports, there is movement in Capitol Hill to extend the Federal tax incentives, which could raise the Tesla and

Chevy incentives back up to \$7500, but we shouldn't hold our collective breath on that just yet.

An EV saves the average driver more than \$1,000 on fuel and maintenance in the first year, or \$5,000+ in just the first 5 years of driving. That's far more than the expiring \$1,500 state incentive. Saving on fuel and vehicle maintenance can exponentially increase the money you save for owning an EV. This is especially true in Braintree, where you can sign up for the Braintree Drives Electric "Bring Your Own Charger" program, and get an \$8 monthly bill credit for charging your vehicle weekdays between 9 p.m. and noon the next day!

Even with the loss of the state incentive, the cost of EV ownership is drastically lower than it was previously. **And programs like those offered by BELD (<https://braintree-ev.ene.org/>) put even more money in your pocket.**

Save the date: Public Power Day

Public Power Week is observed the first full week of October by 2,000+ utilities that collectively provide electricity on a not-for-profit basis to 49 million Americans. **This year, BELD will kick off the annual celebration with our popular customer appreciation event at the Braintree Farmers Market Saturday, Oct. 5.** Stay tuned for complete details, and information on other events that week!



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Farm-to-table dinner

Sat. 9/14, 6:30-10:30 p.m. on the grounds of the Braintree Historical Society, behind the Thayer House between Washington Street & Tenney Road. The Braintree Historical Society & Sustainable Braintree will feature locally grown produce from the farms of the Braintree Farmers Market. Comfort Street Music will provide entertainment, and there will be a cash bar. Tickets are \$60 pp & on sale at the Town Clerk's office, Braintree Farmers Market & at sustainablebraintree.org; & at sustainablebraintree.org. Visit braintree-historical.org.

Braintree Recycling update

Just within the U.S. people buy half a billion water bottles every week. That is enough to circle the globe

five+ times! Only 20% of these bottles end up being recycled. Additionally, bottled water costs 2,000 times more than tap water. Help protect our planet, the oceans and your wallet by investing in a reusable water bottle.

Candidates Night—Mayoral Primary

Wed. 9/11, 7 p.m., Braintree Town Hall; moderated by John Dennehy.

Craft & yard sale

Sat. 9/21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., All Souls Church, 196 Elm St; come shop or sell. Seller spaces just \$25 & space + church table \$35. 781.843-1388; allsoulsbraintree@gmail.com.



www.beld.com
150 Potter Road
Braintree, MA 02184
781.348.BELD (2353)

BELD PAYMENT OPTIONS

Sign up for AutoPay at beld.com, or call 781.348.1001 to make a one-time payment

PAYMENT LOCATIONS

150 Potter Road
Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Th: 7:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
Drop boxes
Top of Potter Road
Beside Town Hall
Cash accepted only at South Shore Bank
1010 Washington St.
372 Washington St.

BROADBAND HELPDESK

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday & holidays:
8 a.m.–4 p.m.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

Public meetings are usually held monthly. Call 781.348.2353 or check www.beld.com to confirm time and date.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Monday, **September 2**
Labor Day

COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Reynolds
Chairman



Anthony Agnitti
Vice Chair



James Regan
Secretary



Bright Ideas is printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper