

Serving Electric, Water & Wastewater Since 1886

## **News Release** Stoughton Utilities

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Stoughton Utilities to Host Public Power Week Celebration**

Each year, Stoughton Utilities holds an annual Public Power Week event that highlights the benefits that "public power" brings to the utility, its customers, and the City of Stoughton.

This year, Stoughton Utilities' customers are invited to a Public Power Walk on Wednesday, September 18 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Racetrack Park on Stoughton's far east side. The walk will include prize drawings, snacks, giveaways, demonstrations, and bucket-truck rides.

Public power refers to the fact that the City of Stoughton owns and operates the not-for-profit utility to provide reliable electricity to homes and businesses. Local employees provide quick responses when issues arise and assistance with identifying energy-saving improvements.

"Because we are owned by our customers rather than shareholders, we can focus on local priorities such as helping to sponsor economic development efforts, support high school scholarships, and participate in local events" said Stoughton Utilities Director Robert Kardasz. "In honor of Public Power Week, we like to give back to all of our customers with a special event."

More than 2,000 electricity providers in the United States are publicly owned, comprising 61.5 percent of all electric utilities but serving only 14.6 percent of the population. The nation's 193 investor-owned utilities serve 68.2 percent of customers. Cooperatives and power marketers serve the remaining 17.2 percent, according to the American Public Power Association.

The website <u>www.WhyPublicPower.org</u> explains how Stoughton Utilities makes local decisions, invests in renewable energy, helps customers save money, and more, in its efforts to benefit the City of Stoughton.

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Founded in 1886, Stoughton Utilities serves electric customers in Stoughton and the surrounding area; and wastewater and water customers in Stoughton.