



**Western Massachusetts
Electric**

A Northeast Utilities Company

AUGUST 2011

Preparing for the Vehicles of the Future

You may not see many electric vehicles (EVs) on the roads where you live now, but as they become available from dealerships in the region there will be many more! EVs can bring significant environmental and social benefits, such as reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions and consumers' fuel costs.

Of course, EVs need to be charged – with electricity! In honor of our commitment to safely and reliably serve all electric customers, WMECo is participating in a two-year research program with parent company Northeast Utilities to study the charging requirements of EVs. The goal is to learn as much as possible about the impacts EV charging has on our

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electric distribution system so we can best support the emerging population of EV drivers.

As part of the study, WMECo is introducing three Level II 240-volt electric vehicle charging stations within our service territory. So far stations have been installed in Springfield and Hadley, and a third station is planned for Pittsfield. More than 30 charging stations are expected to be installed at Northeast Utilities facilities and customer locations throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire as part of the research program before 2012.



Along with our sister companies, WMECo has developed "Plug My Ride," a network of individuals and organizations that are interested in advancing electric transportation.

Get involved by visiting PlugMyRide.org, where you can learn more about plug-in EVs and WMECo's charging stations.



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