

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Chalmers



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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The Town of Chalmers is in the midst of a major water treatment plant renovation that includes treating wastewater with a UV disinfection system.

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Town Wastewater Treatment Plant Undergoes Major Renovations

The town of Chalmers is in the beginning phases of a major wastewater treatment plant renovation that will change the way the town's wastewater is treated, as well as how the sewer lines are maintained.

Town Manager and IMPA Commissioner Faith Willoughby said she is looking forward to the town being one step ahead with a UV wastewater treatment system thanks to a \$750,000 grant the town received from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA).

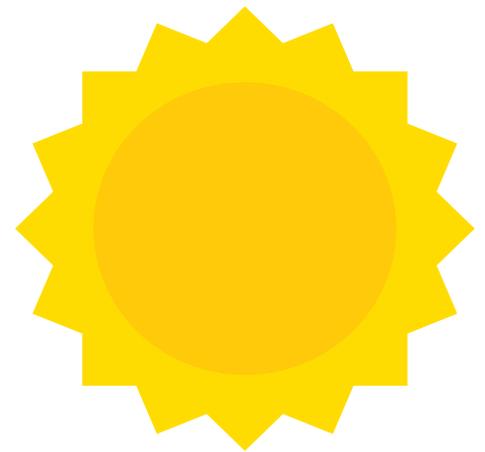
"We received a wastewater grant to slip line the sewer lines, which will coat the inside of the lines so water won't leak because there's so much infiltration," Willoughby said. "We are also going to update the plant from chemical to UV disinfection with lights. It's a much safer solution for wastewater treatment."

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Beat the Heat with Energy Saving Tips

Summer is here, and that means hot, sticky temperatures. You can find relief in a number of places – the museum, pool and even your own home – and still control your electricity costs. As a member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, your local utility already provides you with affordable rates. Now, it's up to you to save even more and help your local utility manage costs during the peak summer months. Follow one or more of these tips and enjoy a cool, less expensive summer:

- Replace air filters regularly. Dirty air filters can increase your electric bill by 20 percent.
- Shade your outside air conditioning unit with trees or shrubs, but do not block the air flow. A unit operating in the shade uses as much as 10 percent less electricity. Keep plants, shrubs and bushes trimmed so they are at least 18 inches away from your outside A/C unit to allow air to flow freely.
- Use your ceiling fans and pedestal fans. Fans can make it feel three to four degrees cooler. Fans should turn counterclockwise in the summer and clockwise in the winter.
- Do not place lamps or televisions near your air conditioning thermostat. The thermostat senses heat from these appliances, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary.
- Turn your thermostat down when you aren't home, but be mindful of pets. You can save 10 percent of your electricity costs each year by turning the thermostat down 10 to 15 percent for 8 hours.
- Turn your thermostat down when you are sleeping.
- Windows can account for 10 to 25 percent of your electric bill. Install lightly colored window shades, drapes or blinds to reflect heat away from your windows. Close curtains on the south and west facing windows.
- Seal and/or insulate your ductwork.
- Use light-emitting diode (LED) or compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs instead of incandescent light bulbs. LEDs and CFLs last longer, save on energy costs and don't produce heat like the incandescent bulbs.
- Appliances and electronics generate heat. Turn them off when you aren't using them.
- Close the doors in rooms you don't often use so you're not cooling them as well.
- Try to stay in or out. Opening and closing doors lets cold air out and warm air in.



How Much Do My Appliances Cost to Run?

Today we are using more appliances and electronics than ever before. Have you ever wondered how much it really costs to run each device? Here are some figures using average electric costs for a residential public power customer:

To run one dishwasher cycle
(depending on how much
hot water is used)



\$0.17 - \$0.73

To run a central A/C system
for two hours



\$0.28 - \$0.81

To watch two hours of television
(ranges for different types of TVs)



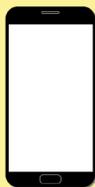
\$0.02 - \$0.06

To light a room for three hours with
four 60-watt-equivalent CFLs



\$0.02

To recharge a smartphone



<\$0.01

To heat a household's water
heater for one month



\$46 - \$77

*Information from the American Public Power Association

IMPA Welcomes New Solar Parks

IMPA added to its diverse portfolio of power supply resources in 2017 with the construction of four solar parks. In 2018, the Agency will continue its ongoing commitment to providing a low-cost, reliable and environmentally responsible power supply to its 61 communities.

Thousands of additional homes around the state were powered last year thanks to the efforts of IMPA and the member communities the Agency serves. Communities in which solar parks were implemented in 2017 include Anderson, Flora, Greenfield and Spiceland.

Other IMPA communities in which solar parks have been built include Argos, Bainbridge, Crawfordsville, Frankton, Huntingburg, Pendleton, Peru, Rensselaer, Richmond, Tell City, Washington and Waynetown.

Raj Rao, IMPA President and CEO, said the output of solar parks throughout the state enables the Agency to continue expanding its diverse portfolio through the addition of solar energy.

“We are certain these parks will have a lasting impact on the communities,” Rao said.

IMPA has begun construction on additional solar parks in IMPA member communities for 2018. Generation data for each solar park is available on IMPA’s website at www.impa.com/solar.

Anderson 2

- 8.1 MW
- Largest IMPA solar park
- Powers over 1,000 homes annually

Flora

- 0.81 MW
- 2,964 solar panels
- Powers over 100 homes annually

Greenfield

- 2.84 MW
- 10,450 solar panels
- Powers over 400 homes annually

Spiceland

- 0.53 MW
- 1,938 solar panels
- Powers over 80 homes annually

Town Seeks Funding for Anticipated Splash Pad Project

Small towns across Indiana are showing interest in an innovative and economical way to cool off during the summer. Splash pads are seemingly popping up all over the state, and the Town of Chalmers is interested in providing its citizens with a fun and low-cost way to take part in all the fun.

Chalmers Town Manager and IMPA Commissioner Faith Willoughby said the town is in the beginning phases of planning and budgeting for the proposed project.

“We have been looking in to putting in a splash pad for the town because it is something that we can build that is relatively low-cost initially, as well as economical to maintain,” Willoughby said. “We have been talking with companies for cost estimates, as well as companies that could help us get grants for the project.”

Willoughby said this “dream project” would be much easier, as well as less costly, to build than a pool or aquatic center. This low-cost project would provide recreation for the town, and it wouldn’t put too much of a dent in the town’s budget over the next several years.

“What I really like about the idea of having a splash pad is how inexpensive it would be to maintain,” she said. “It’s not something that is constantly running water either, so it is economical in this sense as well. It would be set up with sensors so it would only turn on when people touch certain objects on the splash pad.”

Willoughby said the town is looking for donations, as well as sponsors, to get the project started.

“It’s a goal we have on the radar for now, but we know the initial cost is something we have to figure out first,” she said.

Cooking Corner

For a chance to be featured in the newsletter and win a prize, send your recipe to:

MPN Recipes
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032
or

newsletter@impa.com

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11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032 or
newsletter@impa.com.

Pesto

Recipe submitted by Kristy Lewellyn of
Linton, Indiana

2 cups packed fresh basil leaves
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
1/3 cup pine nuts
3 medium sized garlic cloves minced
salt & pepper
1/2 cup parmesan - optional

Chop basil, nuts & garlic as finely as possible and slowly add other ingredients. The perfect start to your own Bruchetta. Or, serve over pasta or as an appetizer with crackers or bread.

Chutney Cheese Canapé

Recipe submitted by Leisa Lowrey of
Jasper, Indiana

8 oz. cream cheese
1/4 c. chutney, chopped fine
1/2 tsp. dry mustard
1 tsp. curry powder
toasted slivered almonds
serve in 1/2 pineapple - optional

Blend all ingredients well in blender or food processor. Chill for at least 4 hours. Scoop out pineapple half & fill with mix. Top with almonds. Serve with crackers (Ritz are best).

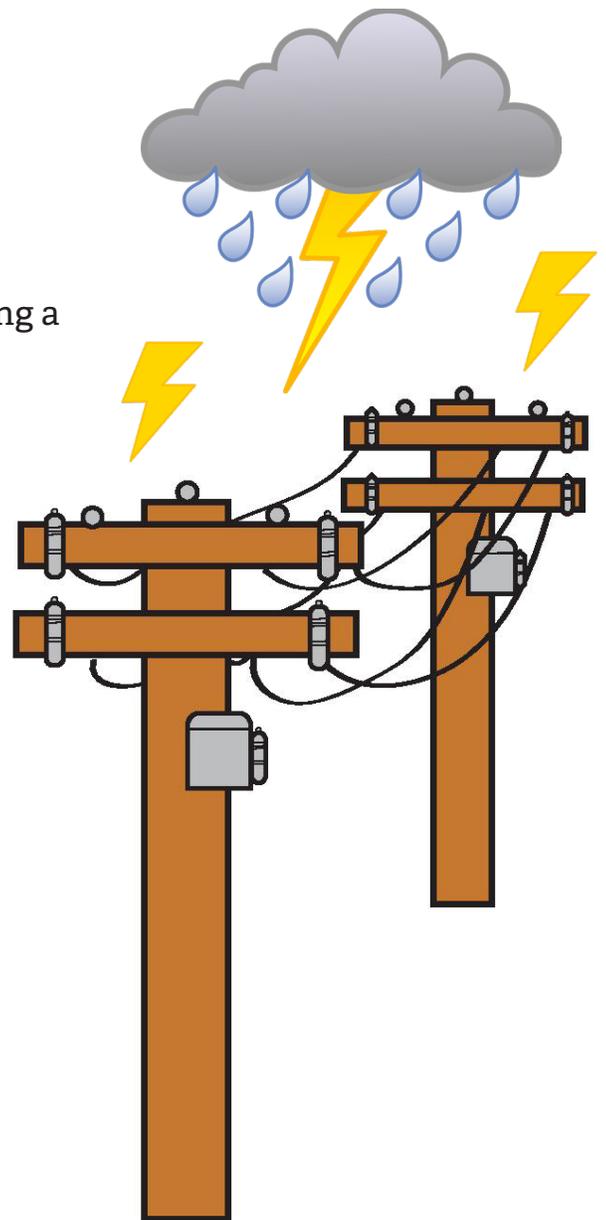
IMPA
Members

Advance	Covington	Huntingburg	Paoli	Thorntown
Anderson	Crawfordsville	Jamestown	Pendleton	Tipton
Argos	Darlington	Jasper	Peru	Troy
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Brooklyn	Flora	Lebanon	Rockville	Williamsport
Brookston	Frankfort	Lewisville	Scottsburg	Winamac
Centerville	Frankton	Linton	South Whitley	
Chalmers	Gas City	Middletown	Spiceland	
Coatesville	Greendale	Montezuma	Straughn	
Columbia City	Greenfield	New Ross	Tell City	

Thunder and Lightning, Oh My!

Thunderstorms can be very unpredictable. It could be a warm, sunny day, and minutes later a dark cloud appears on the horizon. Every year in the United States, lightning kills about 100 people and injures about 250 others. Follow these steps to ensure the safety of yourself and others during thunderstorms:

- Be cautious and aware of your actions during a thunderstorm.
- Don't handle any kind of electrical equipment.
- Even using the telephone can be dangerous during a storm because lightning can follow the phone circuits after striking miles away. Cordless and cellular phones are generally safe, but any metal object can become a hazard when used outside during a storm.
- If you must be out during a storm, avoid wide open area and stay away from wire fences, railroad tracks and all metal objects.
- Also, stay clear of trees and poles – tall objects and wet wood attract lightning.



The bottom line is that storms are dangerous, so exercise caution and be prepared!

Follow IMPA on Social Media!



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Tidbits & Trivia

Question: How many solar parks did IMPA open in 2017?

- a) 1
- b) 4
- c) 6
- d) 7

Send your answer to the question to IMPA, and we will randomly select winners from all of the correct entries to receive an energy efficiency prize pack. Please send your name, e-mail address and address with your answer to:

newsletter@impa.com

OR

MPN Energy Efficiency Quiz
11610 North College Avenue
Carmel, IN 46032

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is a not-for-profit organization that provides an economic, reliable and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members.

IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within the community.

Renewable Energy

Energy that is collected from resources which are naturally replenished on a human timescale, such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, and geothermal heat.

Example: Solar parks are a form of renewable energy.

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Town of Chalmers.

IMPA Commissioner: Faith Willoughby

Water Treatment Project

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Kevin Wenzel, Wastewater Circuit Rider for the State of Indiana, said UV treatment cleans the wastewater after it leaves the plant as it goes through a series of lights that kill all of the bacteria and disinfects it.

“It’s much better than chlorine, because when you are working with chemicals, there is always a chance for things to negatively affect the environment,” Wenzel said. “It’s safer for the employees to work with, and it’s also safer for the town and the environment.”

According to Wenzel, the improvements to the plant will result in fewer hours dedicated to maintenance.

“Every so often the employees will have to take out the UV bulbs and clean them, but this is not nearly as difficult to maintain as the former process was,” Wenzel said.

Willoughby said the wastewater project is expected to take longer than most town projects because they are slip lining the town’s entire sewer line.

“It’s going to be a slight disruption, but people in our town are always understanding about things,” she said. “In the long run it could lower our wastewater rates because we won’t be treating all of the storm water infiltration.

Willoughby said the project should be done by the end of the summer, but the date is not set in stone. ●