

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Flora



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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Multiple entities within the Town of Flora have helped in making renovations to the town's historic train depot in recent years.

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Flora Makes Progress on Train Depot Renovations

The Flora Depot was originally erected in 1908 by the Vandalia Railroad (Pennsylvania Railroad). It was transformed into a laundromat in 1969 after being moved from its original location in the town's parking lot to South Sycamore Street. In 2003, the building was damaged in a fire and sat empty for several years.

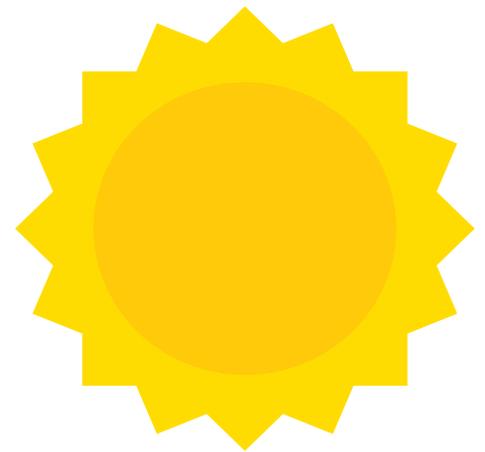
Several entities within the Town of Flora started making renovations to the old train depot in 2013, as it sat damaged and was at risk of facing demolition. Today, the project to restore the depot to honor its original intention is nearing the end of its second phase, which will wrap up the exterior renovations of the building. As of now, the building is vacant on the inside, but people throughout the town have dreams of it housing a local railroad history museum.

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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)



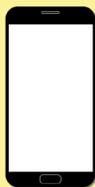
\$0.02 - \$0.06

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

Flora Plans Improvements to Water Plant

The town of Flora is starting to bid out a water project that will include the construction of a new disinfection facility, various building improvements to the water plant, replacing well pumps, rehabilitation to the water towers, as well as replacing the current gas chlorine system.

The \$2.875 million project is being partially funded by a \$600,000 grant from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs through its wastewater and drinking water program.

Ron Fritz, Flora Utility Foreman and IMPA Commissioner, said while the town isn’t under an order to make improvements to the system, there was maintenance work that needed to be addressed.

“So far the project is going really well and our goal is to have it done by February 2019,” Fritz said. “We are bringing in a temporary filtration system, so no pressure will be lost and there won’t be a disruption in the water supply while the project is ongoing.”

Fritz said in addition to the improvements being made, new radio read meters will be installed.

“Installing the radio read meters will free up the four men we have on staff to do other things, which will make reading the meters a one-man operation,” he said.

Fritz said the town’s water rates shouldn’t be affected from the cost of the project, but money will be saved as far as manpower goes.

The current water plant has been up and running since 1961, but hasn’t been rehabilitated to this extent before, Fritz said.

“We are amazed the pumps are still in good shape, but we were scared to make them two more years,” he 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

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).

The **MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS** is a periodic publication of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the 61 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

Editor: Niki Dick
Director of Marketing Communications
niki@impa.com

Correspondent:
Alicia Kelly
Communications Specialist
aliciak@impa.com

Send submissions and comments to:
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032 or
newsletter@impa.com.

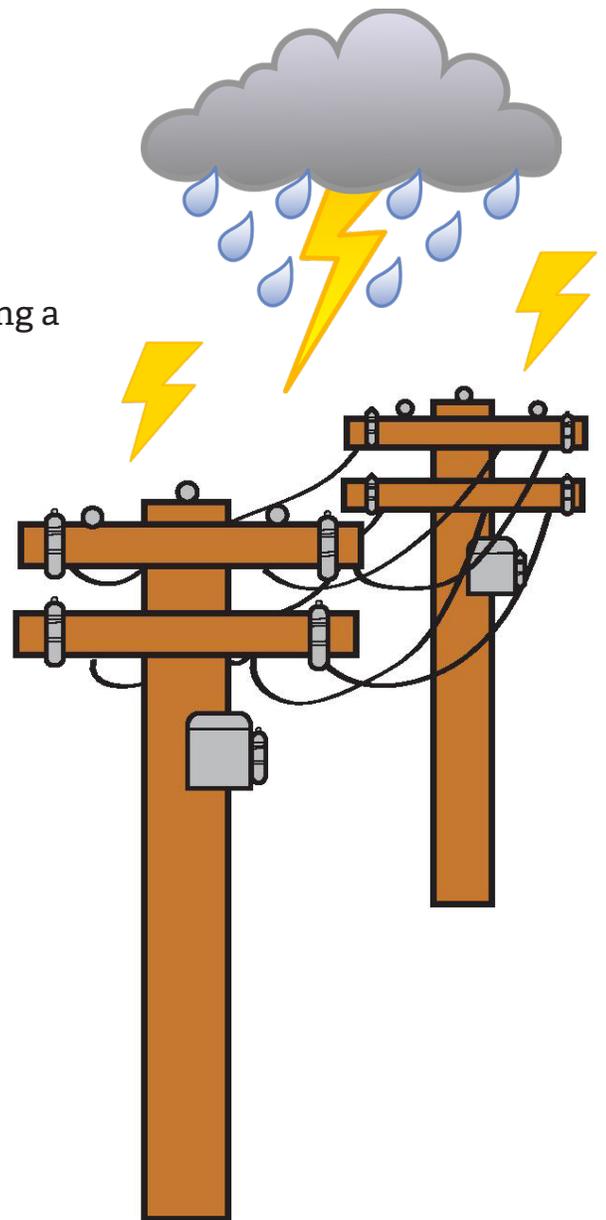


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|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Advance | Covington | Huntingburg | Paoli | Thorntown |
| Anderson | Crawfordsville | Jamestown | Pendleton | Tipton |
| Argos | Darlington | Jasper | Peru | Troy |
| Bainbridge | Dublin | Kingsford Heights | Pittsboro | Veedersburg |
| Bargersville | Dunreith | Knightstown | Rensselaer | Walkerton |
| Blanchester, OH | Edinburgh | Ladoga | Richmond | Washington |
| Bremen | Etna Green | Lawrenceburg | Rising Sun | Waynetown |
| 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!

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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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IMPA Commissioner: Ron Fritz

Depot Project

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Melissa Bishop, Director of the Flora Public Library and Chairwoman of Flora Main Street, has headed the project since it took off several years ago. Bishop said the town has been extremely supportive of efforts to restore the old building and turn it into a hallmark of its original history.

“We have received help from so many local entities,” Bishop said. “From the county to a local level, we have received so many donations and help from volunteers.”

Because the overall goal of the restoration is to turn the building into a historical museum, Bishop said the planning committee for the project is meeting with the Indiana Historical Society in late May to discuss the managerial aspects of running small museum spaces and exhibits.

“We want to honor the true history the depot had in the early 1900s and also touch on railroad history,” she said. “We are also thinking about using the building as a small meeting space for the town to use.”

Bishop said the next step in renovating the outside of the building, as well as the surrounding landscaping, will include putting in sidewalks, ramps, gutters and exterior lighting, which should be done by the end of June.

One of the largest ongoing fundraisers for the project comes from engraved bricks that people can purchase and donate for \$100. The bricks will be placed in the brick walkway in a section of sidewalk surrounding the depot. Bricks can be purchased by visiting: www.bricksrus.com/order/floramain/ •