

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Walkerton



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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The Hiler Multimedia Center, Walkerton's new library, is set to open its doors to visitors this summer.

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## Hiler Multimedia Center to Open Doors this Summer

The town of Walkerton is welcoming a new library this summer, but visitors to the Hiler Multimedia Center will have much more than books to keep them entertained. According to Walkerton Economic Development Director Phil Buckmaster, the \$1.4 million project broke ground in September 2017. Some of the funding for the project was paid for through bonds, but the town also received a \$400,000 grant from the Indiana Office of Rural and Community Affairs.

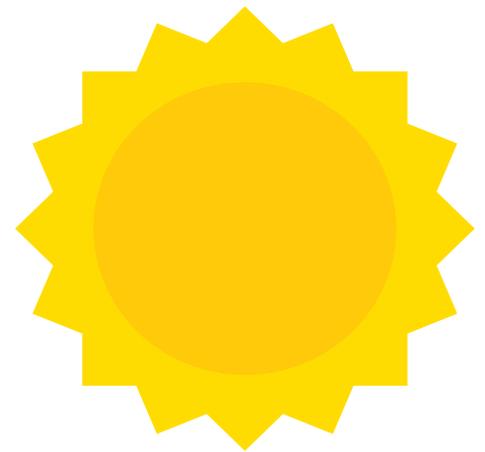
"The land was actually donated to us, which helped us save money to put towards other projects in town," Buckmaster said. "We also received \$250,000 from the Hiler Foundation, which was a very generous gift."

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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)



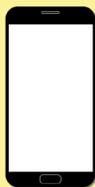
\$0.02 - \$0.06

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 completed 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](http://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

# Road Project Set to Wrap Up This Summer

Walkerton made a commitment to the town's citizens several years ago that all the streets, roads and several alleys would be repaved in just short of one decade. But according to Walkerton Economic Development Director Phil Buckmaster, the 9-year project will be finished in nearly half the time it was expected to be complete.

Buckmaster said the final portion of the road project went for bid in January 2018 and construction started this spring.

"We are going to pave the balance of the roads that weren't paved the first couple times around," Buckmaster said. "We had a 9-year plan that we were going to get the whole town paved, including some alleys, and we are actually going to get it done in five."

Buckmaster said a couple rounds of grant money from the Community Crossings program out of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs have allowed the town to finish the project ahead of schedule. In 2018, a grant for \$525,000 will help wrap up paving the last few streets.

"We are probably one of the only towns in Indiana that will have repaved all of their streets," he said. "We are using this opportunity to our advantage to improve our infrastructure and keep people in the community happy."

Buckmaster said the town seldom receives complaints about the roads and people who are just moving into town frequently comment about the town's upkeep of the roads.

"We are very fortunate to have enough guys out there plowing and taking care of the roads when necessary," he said. "Our local residents are used to it and always appreciate the effort we take in that capacity." •

# 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](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

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[newsletter@impa.com](mailto: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

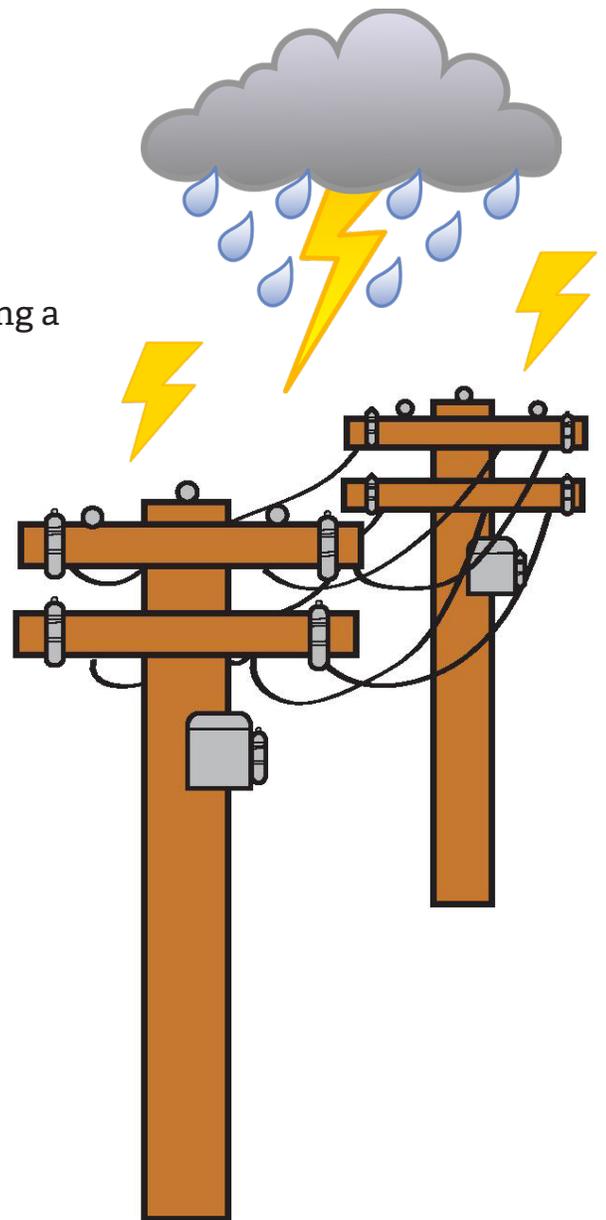
Blend all ingredients well in blender or food processor. Chill for at least 4 hours. Scoop out pineapple half & fill with mix. Top with almonds. Serve with crackers (Ritz are best).

- |                 |                |                   |               |              |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 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!

**T**hunderstorms 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!



Indiana Municipal Power Agency



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@IMPAPower

#IMPAPower



IMPAPower



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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](mailto: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: Kackie Tiede-Chrapliwy

## Multimedia Center

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According to Buckmaster, the costs to repair and remodel the existing library, located at 300 Michigan St., were far more expensive than constructing a new building, which will be energy efficient.

The multimedia center is across the street from the town's middle school and will be utilized by students on a regular basis, as well as serve as a focal point for people driving into Walkerton on Roosevelt Road. Buckmaster said it's important for the single-story building to look nice and be as inviting as possible for people passing by.

"We have kept the principal of the middle school in the loop so he can answer any questions students or parents might have about the multimedia center," Buckmaster said. "The students have been watching the construction outside of the windows as it has progressed and they are looking forward to the day it opens."

Buckmaster said it's being called a "multimedia center" because in addition to books, the library will furnish computers, Wi-Fi throughout, a hardwire internet connection and more digital options than most libraries have now.

Construction of the building progresses each day and the multimedia center plans to open its doors in July 2018. ●