

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Blanchester Board of Public Affairs



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 24, Issue 1 | Fall 2018



The new water treatment plant in Blanchester, officially completed in summer 2018, enables the utility to provide a safer and better drinking water infrastructure for the residents of Blanchester.

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Blanchester Continues Work on Community Projects

Now that the Blanchester Board of Public Affairs (BPA) has officially opened its new water treatment plant, including the implementation of administrative and laboratory offices as well as a technology control center as of June 2018, the utility is shifting its focus to electric-driven projects throughout the village.

“Right now we are working with the IMPA Service Corp to address reliability and future load needs,” said Utilities Director and IMPA Commissioner Ram Reddy.

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Prepare for Colder Weather with Energy Saving Tips

It's time to start thinking about cool weather energy saving opportunities. Check out these tips and cut down on your energy costs this fall:

- Check your furnace filters monthly. Dirty filters block air flow and increase your energy bill.
- Close your fire damper when your fireplace is not in use. Place a glass fireplace door over the opening to reduce heat loss.
- Cover up with an extra blanket on chilly nights and turn down the thermostat.
- Fifteen percent of your home energy bill goes to heating water. Save hot water by taking five-minute showers instead of baths.
- Lower the heat temperature on your water heater to “warm.” Running water should be no hotter than 120 degrees.
- Insulate your water heater.
- Open your blinds and curtains to let sunlight warm your home.
- Switch your ceiling fans to rotate clockwise.
- Whenever possible, use a microwave oven instead of your conventional oven and save up to 50 percent of the energy you would use baking.
- Insulate your attic, basement and outside walls.
- Don't block your radiators or heating vents with furniture or draperies. Keep your radiators, registers and baseboard heaters dirt and dust free.
- Close vents and doors in unused rooms.
- Consider getting a humidifier to add moisture to the air.



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)



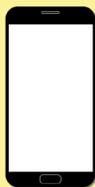
\$0.02 - \$0.06

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



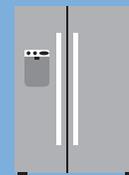
\$0.01

To recharge a smartphone



<\$0.01

To run a refrigerator for one day
(assuming a 225-watt refrigerator
operating 24 hours/day)



\$0.21

*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, bringing the total solar capacity of the Agency to 36.6 megawatts (MW). Thousands of additional homes around the state were powered last year thanks to the efforts of IMPA and the member communities the Agency serves.



The photo above shows the progress of the 7.44 MW Richmond 2 Solar Park as of June 2018.

Communities in which solar parks were completed in 2017 include Anderson, Flora, Greenfield and Spiceland. Ranging from 0.53 MW up to 8 MW, together these resources added 12 MW of solar capacity to the Agency's existing solar portfolio that is now made up of 17 solar parks. In 2018, the Agency continues its ongoing commitment to providing a low-cost, reliable and environmentally responsible power supply to its 61 communities with the ongoing construction of four additional solar parks in Advance, Rensselaer, Richmond and Tipton.

Advance will be welcoming a 0.24 MW solar field to its community, which will be comprised of eight rows of 864 panels.

A second solar park is being constructed in Rensselaer, which will have a capacity of 3.84 MW.

Richmond is welcoming a 7.44 MW solar park, which will be the second solar park constructed in the city.

The Advance, Rensselaer and Richmond solar parks will each be generating power by the end of 2018.

A new site will also be constructed in Tipton. Construction on Tipton's 5.25 MW solar park is expected to begin in October 2018. In time, IMPA plans to construct over 100 MW of solar capacity in member communities. Generation data for each solar park is available on IMPA's website at www.impa.com/solar. ●

2017 Solar Parks

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



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

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

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11610 N. College Ave.
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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 Bruschetta. 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 | |

Tree Trimming: Out of Lines, Out of Danger

Winter is a popular time for utility crews to trim trees. The ground is usually too frozen for digging and most utility projects are better suited for warmer weather. The reason that they are cutting branches away from the power lines is for the community's safety. Protecting utility lines from trees isn't just the utility's job - you can help them with this mission. Check out these tips on how and why to keep trees away from power lines.

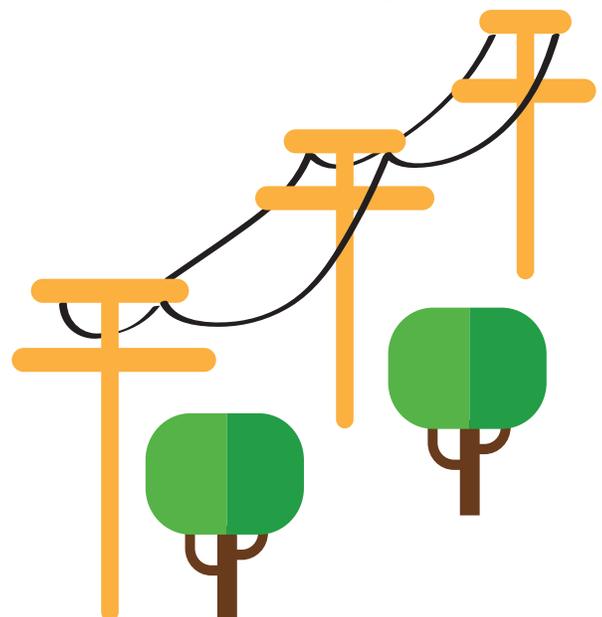
How to keep trees away from lines:

When planting a tree, be aware of its location. It may be small and away from power lines at the start, but make sure it won't get tangled in the lines as it grows.

- Trees planted directly under or within 20 feet of the power lines should have a mature height of less than 25 feet.
- Trees that mature to 25 - 45 feet tall should be planted 20 to 50 feet away.
- Trees greater than 45 feet at maturity should be planted more than 50 feet away.

What to know about trees in power lines:

- Called 'burning the line', trees touching power lines can drain electricity off the electrical system, resulting in voltage loss. Low voltage can damage motor-driven appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines and sensitive electronics like computers.
- Tree limbs touching power lines put constant stress on live wires and can cause the branches to catch fire and fall to the ground.
- During storms, branches may fall onto the lines, which can tear down energized lines, transformers and poles. If this were to happen, you could experience a power outage for some time.



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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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The Municipal Power News is published by
the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the
Blanchester Board of Public Affairs.
IMPA Commissioner: Ram Reddy

Projects

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“We are currently exploring all of our options to upgrade the electric distribution system.”

Reddy said the utility is looking to build a new substation to increase the efficiency and reliability of its distribution system.

“We are also doing a study of our rate structure for various commercial and residential classes,” he said. “The research we will be doing also addresses the accommodation for renewable energy in Blanchester and what our options are on that spectrum. We have had some businesses contact us about solar energy and we look forward to working together through this endeavor in the future.”

Reddy said that as business continues to pick up in Blanchester, BPA will continue to take steps towards several system improvements, including system reliability, system maintenance, efficiently managing its workforce and workload by reducing costs and prepping power lines to provide improved capacity and efficiency in service. ●