

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Darlington Light and Power



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 22, Issue 3



Darlington Light & Power lineworkers Greg Gayler (pictured in red, above) and Brian Mullen attended several of IMPA's Second Wednesday workshops. These workshops focused on different topics relevant to safety and training for utility personnel.

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## Darlington Utilities Lineworkers Benefit from Trainings

In 2016, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Darlington's wholesale power provider, implemented a new education and training program entitled Second Wednesdays. Free to all IMPA member communities, this training program aimed to meet the needs of all utility personnel, including lineworkers, substation workers, meter personnel, management staff and customer service personnel. Greg Gayler and Brian Mullen, both lineworkers with Darlington Utilities, attended several of these workshops in order to increase their skillset and job knowledge.

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# Public Power Lineworkers: A S

**W**hen severe weather strikes, the first instinct is often to hunker down inside and wait for the storm to pass. Lineworkers across the state and the country know that when severe weather hits, it's time to get to work. A portion of a lineworker's job demands working in inclement weather conditions for long periods of time, often during the middle of the night. These lineworkers put their lives on the line each day to ensure that everyone in their cities and towns has access to reliable electricity. Read on to meet a few lineworkers from Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) member communities across the state.

## Colin Leinenbach - Huntingburg Electric Utility



"This can be a dangerous job, and my first year as an apprentice, I wasn't sure if I could do it. But, I learned to trust the other people that I work with. They keep me safe and they keep me alive, and we have a real bond. It's a dangerous job and it's a hard job, but it's worth it to know that I'm helping keep the lights on for our city."

Colin has worked for the City of Huntingburg in various capacities for six years and has been an apprentice lineworker for the last four years. Colin is in his final year in the apprenticeship program and is set to graduate and receive his certification in March 2017. Colin is also a recent graduate of the Dubois County Leadership Academy.

## Myron McAlister - Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power



"The best part of this job is that I learn something new every day. Even though I've been a lineworker for basically my entire adult life, I know that I don't know everything. There are definitely some storms that I'll never forget, but it has all been worth it. I'm glad I made the choice to become a lineworker, and I would encourage others to think about this as a career."

Myron has worked for Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) for 41 years and will retire on February 28, 2017. IMPA and CEL&P thank Myron for his decades of service to CEL&P as well as to public power as a whole.

# A Staple in their Communities

## Greg Gayler - Darlington Light & Power



"Over the past few years in Darlington, I've really tried to make the electric system more reliable for the people who live here. It's a small town, but we all care about each other. That's what makes it worth it to go out in bad weather. I see that people appreciate it, and I want to do what's right for our town."

Greg has been with the Town of Darlington for the past eight years, but has 35 years of experience as a lineworker. He is the recipient of the American Public Power Association's Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award, which is a national award that recognizes utility managers who serve in the nation's smallest public power communities.

## Jeff McNew - Lebanon Utilities



"When I first started as a lineworker, I really didn't know a lot about the job, but the longer I worked, the more I liked it. I enjoy climbing the poles, being outside and working with the other lineworkers. Sometimes people will come up to us and tell us how much they appreciate what we do, which always makes you feel good. It's hard to work in the rain, ice and snow, but it's worth it."

Jeff has been a lineworker with Lebanon Utilities for four years. Jeff was recently named Apprentice Lineworker of the Year by the Indiana Municipal Electric Association and will compete this spring at the national American Public Power Association's Lineworkers Rodeo.

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, knows just how hard these lineworkers work, each and every day. We salute lineworkers from our member communities for putting their lives on the line each day, ensuring that each resident and business across all 61 of IMPA's member communities has access to safe and reliable electricity. ●

# Darlington Utilities Work to Improve the Community

**E**mployees of Darlington Utilities are responsible for a variety of town amenities, including electric and street services. These staff members keep the lights on for the community, but they also assist the town in a variety of other ways. This fall, utility employees offered a new service to Darlington residents: leaf pick-up.

By utilizing a new leaf vacuum, residents of Darlington had access to an easy and safe way of disposing of leaves. Utility employees picked up residents' leaves off the side of the street every day from October 24<sup>th</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>. This service was completely free for residents to utilize. In addition to collecting leaves, utility staff also tested and hung all the Christmas decorations throughout downtown Darlington.

The Town of Darlington appreciates all of the hard work from the town's utility employees who strive to make the community a great place to live. ●

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## Space Heater Safety

**E**lectric space heaters are commonly used throughout the winter months as a supplement to a furnace or fireplace. These heaters are handy when trying to heat only one room in a house or when a room has inadequate heating capabilities, but can cause safety concerns. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, approximately 25,000 residential fires and 300 deaths occur each year due to the improper use of space heaters. Read on for tips on how to safely use a space heater – and stay warm this winter.

- **Never leave a space heater unattended. While it may be tempting to turn a space heater on before going to sleep, this is a dangerous practice. Always turn off and unplug a space heater before leaving a room.**
- **Proper placement of a space heater is critical to staying safe. The space heater should be at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including clothing, furniture, rugs or paper.**
- **Space heaters should sit on flat, level surfaces. Never place space heaters on rugs, carpet, cabinets or tables, as this could easily start a fire.**
- **Always plug a space heater directly into a wall outlet, not into an extension cord or power strip.**
- **Purchase a space heater that has a tip-over safety switch. This will automatically turn the heater off if it falls over, which can help prevent a fire.**

While electric space heaters provide a great benefit during the cold winter months, they can also spark tragedy if proper safety precautions are not taken. Follow these tips to help keep you and your family safe during the winter season. ●

# Lineworkers

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“I found these workshops to be helpful and a good reminder to always put safety first,” stated Greg Gayler, Utilities Superintendent and IMPA Commissioner. “In this line of work, you can never have enough training and education. Everything that we learned will benefit the town, as we will be able to put this training into action.”

IMPA is passionate about providing learning opportunities for its member communities, especially ones that encourage safety. Looking forward to 2017, IMPA plans to continue offering these workshops, which benefit all IMPA communities, including Darlington.

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** How many peregrine falcon chicks hatched at IMPA’s co-owned generating unit, Trimble County Station, in 2016?

- a) 38 chicks
- b) 5 chicks
- c) 10 chicks
- d) 3 chicks

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 a low cost, reliable and environmentally-responsible power supply to its members.

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

## Generation

The actual creation of electricity at power plants or a generating station.

*IMPA’s generation portfolio includes seven coal-fired units, seven combustion turbine units and 13 solar parks.*

# Trimble County Station's Wildlife Preserve Helps Save Endangered Species

**T**he Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, is passionate about providing affordable and reliable electricity, but is equally passionate about environmental responsibility and preserving our country's natural resources. One of IMPA's co-owned generating stations, Trimble County Station, is a great example of how the two seemingly opposite services – power production and environmental responsibility – can merge together as one.

Trimble County Station is a two-unit station located in Kentucky that generates a total of 1,274 Megawatts (MW) of power of which IMPA owns 162 MW. Trimble County Station, a baseload generating station whose mission is to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is an integral component of IMPA's power portfolio. It provides a steady and consistent stream of electricity, which serves to power your homes and businesses. In addition to generating power in a reliable manner, Trimble County Station also boasts its own 114-acre wildlife preserve, which includes both wetlands and forest areas. This nature preserve is home to a variety of wildlife, including American bald eagles, peregrine falcons, fox, deer, wild turkeys and many other species of birds and mammals.

Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve has been instrumental in preserving the peregrine falcon population, which was considered an endangered species as recently as the 1970s. As a participating power generation station in Kentucky's peregrine falcon nesting program, Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve contains a nesting box where falcons can breed each year. 2016 was successful for the Station as a male falcon, Favre, and his female falcon companion once again nested at Trimble County, producing three peregrine falcon chicks. In 2016, the entire Kentucky peregrine falcon nesting program produced a total of 38 chicks throughout a variety of participating locations.

Trimble County Station and IMPA are proud to be a part of this resurgence in the peregrine falcon population and are also proud of the efforts made to maintain our country's natural resources. Going forward, IMPA will continue to remain vigilant in providing low cost, reliable electricity in an environmentally responsible manner. ●



One of IMPA's generating stations, Trimble County Station, is home to a 114-acre wildlife preserve (pictured above). Trimble County Station (pictured below) provides a steady stream of electricity, which helps to power IMPA's 61 member communities.



# Cooking Corner

**We need more recipes!**

Send your favorites to:  
MPN Recipes  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032  
or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

**You'll win a prize!**

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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|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Advance         | Chalmers       | Flora             | Knightstown  | Pendleton     | Straughn     |
| Anderson        | Coatesville    | Frankfort         | Ladoga       | Peru          | Tell City    |
| Argos           | Columbia City  | Frankton          | Lawrenceburg | Pittsboro     | Thorntown    |
| Bainbridge      | Covington      | Gas City          | Lebanon      | Rensselaer    | Tipton       |
| Bargersville    | Crawfordsville | Greendale         | Lewisville   | Richmond      | Troy         |
| Blanchester, OH | Darlington     | Greenfield        | Linton       | Rising Sun    | Veedersburg  |
| Bremen          | Dublin         | Huntingburg       | Middletown   | Rockville     | Walkerton    |
| Brooklyn        | Dunreith       | Jamestown         | Montezuma    | Scottsburg    | Washington   |
| Brookston       | Edinburgh      | Jasper            | New Ross     | South Whitley | Waynetown    |
| Centerville     | Etna Green     | Kingsford Heights | Paoli        | Spiceland     | Williamsport |
|                 |                |                   |              |               | Winamac      |

## Potato Soup

Recipe submitted by Penny Cox of Montezuma, Indiana.

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| -2 tbsp. olive oil       | -2 tbsp. parsley           |
| -1/2 cup chopped onion   | - 3/4 tsp. salt            |
| -1/2 cup chopped carrots | -1/8 tsp. pepper           |
| -1 cup sliced celery     | -1 tbsp. chopped pimento   |
| -3 cups cubed potatoes   | -4 cup milk (1/2 reserved) |
| -1/4 cup flour           | -1 can chicken broth       |

Heat olive oil in a 3-quart saucepan over medium-high heat and saute onion until tender, about five minutes. Add carrots, celery, potatoes, parsley, chicken broth, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes. Reduce heat; add pimento and 3 1/2 cups milk. Heat soup until milk is scalded only - do not boil. Blend flour with 1/2 cup of milk and add to soup, stirring constantly. Cook until bubbly and slightly thickened.

## Easy Corn Casserole

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| - 1 8.5 oz. package cornbread mix                 | - 1 15-oz. can corn (drained) |
| - 1 cup sour cream                                | - 2 eggs, beaten              |
| - 1 stick unsalted butter, melted                 | - 1/8 tsp. pepper             |
| -1 15-oz. can creamed style corn<br>(not drained) | - 1/4 tsp. salt               |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 2 1/2-quart baking dish. In a bowl, mix together sour cream, corn, creamed corn, melted butter and eggs. Add cornbread mix, salt and pepper and stir. Pour into greased baking dish and bake for 45-60 minutes until sides are golden and the middle doesn't jiggle when you shake it.



The Municipal Power News is published by the Indiana  
Municipal Power Agency and Darlington Light and  
Power.

IMPA Commissioner: Greg Gayler

## How to Stay Safe around Downed Power Lines

**D**arlington Light and Power, your hometown electric utility, urges you to exercise caution as winter ice storms can sometimes spell trouble for power lines. Follow these steps to ensure the safety of yourself and others:

- If you see a downed power line, move away both from it and anything touching it. The ground around power lines – up to 35 feet – may be energized.
- Assume that all downed power lines are live.
- The proper way to move away from the power line is to shuffle with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This will minimize the potential for a strong electric shock.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. Call 911 for help. Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it.●