

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Edinburgh Municipal Utilities



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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Electric Utility Continues Providing Reliable Service

Edinburgh has been proud to serve the community with reliable and affordable power for over 120 years, and the local electric utility continues to upgrade their service each year. Throughout 2019, Edinburgh Municipal Utilities focused on substation infrastructure upgrades to improve the town's electric reliability and capacity. The utility continues to look ahead by planning for a utility pole replacement project in 2020 to further improve the local electric infrastructure. This focus on reliability while maintaining competitive rates is a core advantage of Edinburgh's public power system. Public power allows Edinburgh to maintain local control of the utility, and any revenue generated by the utility's electric rates goes directly back to the community.

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Celebrate Lineworkers on April 18th with IMPA

Your municipal utility's lineworkers, the men and women who maintain and repair electric distribution lines, are subject to several hazards every day, and yet their work is essential for your community's power needs. These utility professionals put themselves in harm's way each day to keep the lights on in your community's homes, schools, churches, and businesses, at times subjecting themselves to volatile weather conditions, dangerous heights, and live electrical currents.



The invaluable work that linemen and women commit themselves to often goes underappreciated, which is why the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is excited to celebrate and promote National Linemen Appreciation Day. Each April 18th, utilities across the United States make an effort to honor the hard work and dedication that lineworkers show to their communities every day of the year. Be sure to follow IMPA's social media pages to celebrate National Linemen Appreciation Day with us and thank your local lineworker for the hard work that they do each day!

Safety Around Downed Power Lines

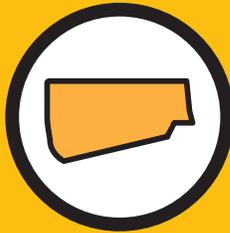
Winter ice storms and the stormy spring season can sometimes spell trouble for power lines. Your municipal electric utility wants to ensure that you exercise caution if you happen to be near any downed power lines this year. Follow these steps to stay safe if you see a downed power line:

- Move away from the line and anything that is in contact with the line, as the ground around power lines may be energized up to a 35 foot radius.
- Assume that all downed power lines are energized and dangerous.
- Shuffle with small steps away from the power line, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times to minimize the potential of a strong electrical shock.
- If you see someone who is in contact with the downed line, do not touch this person. Call 911 for help.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with one.

What keeps electrical workers safe?

An array of special gear and equipment keeps crew members safe while working on electrical equipment and lines.

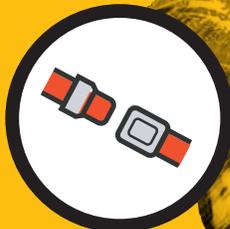
Rubber sleeves: Worn over clothes to protect workers from accidental contact with live lines or other equipment.



Clothing: Arc rated clothing such as jeans and shirts are made from flame resistant materials and avoid using metal components (buttons, zippers).



Safety Strap/Harness: Either connected to the inside of a bucket truck or attached around the pole to prevent falls.



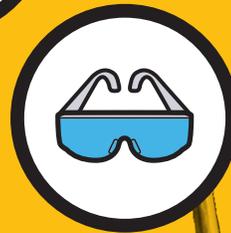
Rope/Handline: Includes a pulley and steel clips to assist with lifting and lowering materials and acts as a lifeline in the event of an emergency.



Boots: Reinforced steel or ceramic toe, with serrated heels and reinforced sole for support in climbing and working on poles.



Hard hat: Insulated and rigid to protect workers from contact with electrical hazards or falling objects. Includes slots for adding in ear protection or face shields, when necessary.



Glasses: Keep glare and objects/small debris from workers' eyes.



Gloves: Workers wear two layers of gloves. Insulated rubber gloves protect from electric shocks and burns, and an outer pair of leather gloves help keep the rubber gloves from getting punctured or torn.



Hot stick: Insulated fiberglass tool used when working with live lines and equipment.



#PublicPower

New Town Fire Chief

After 45 years of commendable service, Edinburgh's Fire Chief, Allen Smith, retired late last year. Town officials say it was bittersweet to congratulate Smith on his retirement, as his work has been an integral part of the community for decades. However, Edinburgh is happy to welcome the town's new Fire Chief, Mike Herron, who also has decades of experience under his belt.

Prior to coming to Edinburgh, Herron worked with the Franklin Fire Department for 15 years, serving as the city's Fire Chief for 7 of those years. He eventually transferred to Bargsville's Fire Department, being hired as a career Battalion Chief and eventually appointed to Deputy Chief, spending another 15 years there. His interest in emergency services came naturally—Herron's father was a fireman in Franklin for over three decades, and as a child, he never envisioned himself in any other line of work. Now, Chief Herron is proud to serve Edinburgh with his extensive knowledge as a trained paramedic and experience in firefighting.

"Chief Herron has already proved himself to be a tremendous asset to Edinburgh," said Building Commissioner, Wade Watson. "We will surely miss Allen Smith, and we are fortunate to recruit such an accomplished individual to step into his role. Chief Herron has already played an integral role in obtaining grants for the town and reorganizing the Fire Department's system for the better."

In the few months that Herron has been with Edinburgh, he restructured the Fire Department's staffing system to improve service and availability to the town. Previously, the department had only two paid firefighters and a fire chief who worked Monday through Friday and served on-call through nights and weekends. Additionally, a volunteer staff would assist with the needs of the department. Now, the system has been reorganized to implement what is considered a "paid-standby" system. The Fire Department now divides its service into 24-hour shifts, with one paid career firefighter and 4 paid standby firefighters on each shift when all hours are filled. The paid standby firefighters receive an hourly wage for the shifts that they work.

"Prior to this restructuring, the town had to rely on firemen being called from home to serve in some emergencies," said Herron. "The new system allows access to more firemen and a quicker response time. There are still volunteer opportunities available, but most of the department's operations are now paid. We're able to more confidently serve Edinburgh now that we have the paid standby system in place."

Herron was familiar with the paid standby system from his previous work in Franklin and Bargsville, so implementing the structure in Edinburgh came easily. The Fire Department is proud to now have 30 individuals on the roster for paid standby opportunities and two full-time career firemen in addition to the Fire Chief.

"Other than the restructuring project, I'm looking forward to continuing to involve the Fire Department in town activities and the local schools," said Herron. "The department has always been heavily involved in the community and we're excited to carry this tradition on."

Through the recent changes, Town Manager JT Doane extended his sincerest gratitude to Allen Smith for his 45 years of dedicated service and was happy to welcome Chief Herron to serve the Edinburgh community. "Chief Herron brings a wealth of experience and strong leadership to our Fire and EMS Department," said Doane. "With the town's further commitment to advance our fire and EMS services, we created the plan, developed the strategy, and we're happy to have executed a system that allows for 24-hour coverage with one paid career firefighter and four paid standby firefighters on shift." •



Edinburgh is grateful for the years of service Allen Smith provided to the community as the town's previous fire chief.

Road Work Coming Soon

One of the most highly anticipated town projects of the year will be the upcoming construction on CR 900 on the south side of Edinburgh. The road is frequently used by commercial and industrial vehicles as its location is near the town's industrial park, and age-induced wear and tear from constant use has been showing for years. The project's leaders are excited to be repairing the road to make a safer environment for the motorists who use CR 900 every day.

The substantial construction will provide a completely new foundation to the road with new and wider pavement over the top. Funding for the extensive road work is already secured with a \$639,075 Community Crossings grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation financing much of the project. Construction was intended to begin in March of 2020, but some delay has resulted from the COVID-19 outbreak in Indiana. Despite the postponement of the project's start, town officials still believe the road work will be completed before the end of the year.

"We are ecstatic to be addressing roads and other infrastructure needs of the community in such a significant, expeditious manner," said Town Manager JT Doane.

Additional roads to be repaved this year include Walnut Street, Franklin Street, Harrell Drive, Brown Street, and Keeley Street. These construction projects are meant to complement last year's rehabilitation project that improved over a dozen roads in town. The town is also working to update all signage in the community and will begin the 2020 phase of replacing street signs this summer. •

Last year's road construction made improvements to over a dozen roads, including:

- East Main Cross
- Kyle Street
- Blue River Drive
- Clark Street
- Main Street
- Shelby Street
- Clay Street
- Center Cross Street
- Bachelor Street
- Pleasant Street
- Manuel Street
- Hougham Street
- Portions of East Park
- Portions of Middle Park Drive

Tidbits & Trivia

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 provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio. IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within your community.

Question: How many member communities were a part of IMPA at the Agency's origination in 1983?

Find out at impa.com/about-impa

Generation Resources

noun.

The facilities that produce electricity for distribution and delivery to homes and businesses. Generation resources include coal, nuclear, and natural gas power plants, as well as renewables like solar parks and wind turbines.

Example: *IMPA's generation resources include a mixture of coal, natural gas, renewable, and purchased power.*



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

Kim's Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recipe submitted by Patsy Conolty of Washington, Indiana.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup butter flavored Crisco
- 2 1/2 cups quick oats
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 12 oz bag of chocolate chips

Combine eggs and sugar and beat until fluffy. Add the Crisco and vanilla and blend until well-mixed. Put quick oats into a blender and blend into a flour. Add blended oats to mixture and add salt, baking soda, baking powder, and flour, and mix well. Mix in chocolate chips. Bake at 350 degrees on a greased sheet for 9 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before eating.

Old-Fashioned, Baked Mac & Cheese

Recipe submitted by Debbie Johnson of Richmond, Indiana

- 2 1/2 cups uncooked macaroni
- 1 3/4 cups Velveta cheese, cubed
- 3 tbsps butter
- 4 cups milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Melt butter in a 13" by 9" baking dish. Pour the uncooked macaroni into the baking dish and stir until coated. Add salt, pepper, cheese, and milk to dish. Bake uncovered for 1 1/4 hours to 1 1/2 hours. Do not stir while baking. When finished, the macaroni will be lightly browned on top. Let stand 10 minutes after baking.

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 | Covington | Huntingburg | Paoli | Thorntown |
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| Argos | Darlington | Jasper | Peru | Troy |
| Bainbridge | Dublin | Kingsford Heights | Pittsboro | Veedersburg |
| Bargersville | Dunreith | Knightsdown | Rensselaer | Walkerton |
| Blanchester, OH | Edinburgh | Ladoga | Richmond | Washington |
| Bremen | Etna Green | Lawrenceburg | Rising Sun | Waynetown |
| Brooklyn | Flora | Lebanon | Rockville | Williamspport |
| 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 | |

Protect Yourself from Utility Scams

Cyber threats, scams, and frauds are an ever-growing threat to all industries, and the utility industry is no exception. Several scams impersonating local utilities and requesting payments or personal information have been reported in Indiana, so knowing how to avoid and elude scammers and cybercriminals is an increasingly necessary skill. Here are some important tips and facts to protect yourself, your family, and your information from utility scammers.

Telephone Scams

If someone calls threatening to cut off your power, hang up. Never pay over the phone in response to a call, especially when you're threatened with a service disconnection. Scammers know how to spoof caller ID, so do not trust a number even if it shows the name of your municipal utility. Your utility will never demand payment over the phone, so never give personal or financial information to an unsolicited caller.

Fraudulent Emails

Delete all suspicious emails that demand or require immediate action to verify personal information. Scammers often use the technique of phishing, sending fraudulent emails impersonating a trusted source, to incite individuals to give out personal or financial information. Through these emails, scammers try to rouse a sense of urgency in the victim who will generally be asked to provide sensitive data. If you receive a suspicious email, do not follow instructions given by the sender or click on any provided links.

Suspicious Third-Party Payments

Online utility bill pay is a convenience to many residents and businesses. Unfortunately, scammers are aware that more and more individuals are utilizing these web payment portals and are seeking to take advantage. Some cybercriminals are directing customers to third party payment websites to steal money and financial information from victims. If your utility offers an online payment option, be sure that the website you are using is directly affiliated with the utility. To be safe, contact your municipal utility and talk to them about the appropriate online payment website.

The most common security threats are committed by phone, by email, and by suspicious websites. If you feel that a scammer has contacted you, immediately stop your communication with them and contact your municipal utility to report the issue.

*information from the American Public Power Association

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IMPA Commissioner: Mike Jenner

Providing Reliable Service

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Edinburgh's low-cost and reliable power supply is due in part to its membership with the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), the town's wholesale power provider. IMPA achieves its low-cost energy by maintaining a diverse power portfolio that includes coal, natural gas, solar, and nuclear resources. The diversification of IMPA's generation resources also increases the reliability of service. With IMPA's goal to establish multiple solar parks around the state, IMPA's power supply is increasingly green too. The Agency's goal to ensure environmentally responsible electricity helps IMPA and its member communities develop long-term plans to invest in the future of public power. Together, IMPA and Edinburgh provide low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power for community members like you. •