

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Flora



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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The Flora Electric Department, pictured left to right: Ron Fritz, Kevin Shafer and Tom Routt. These three men worked tirelessly after a major wind storm caused most of the town to be without power.

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Flora Utilities Quickly Restores Power After Storm

After powerful storms and straight line winds swept through Flora late in the evening on Wednesday, June 22nd, Flora Utilities employees sprang into action and began working to restore power to the Town of Flora. The three electric department staff members - Ron Fritz, Kevin Shafer and Tom Routt - all arrived on duty at 12:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 23rd after receiving the call that much of the town was without power.

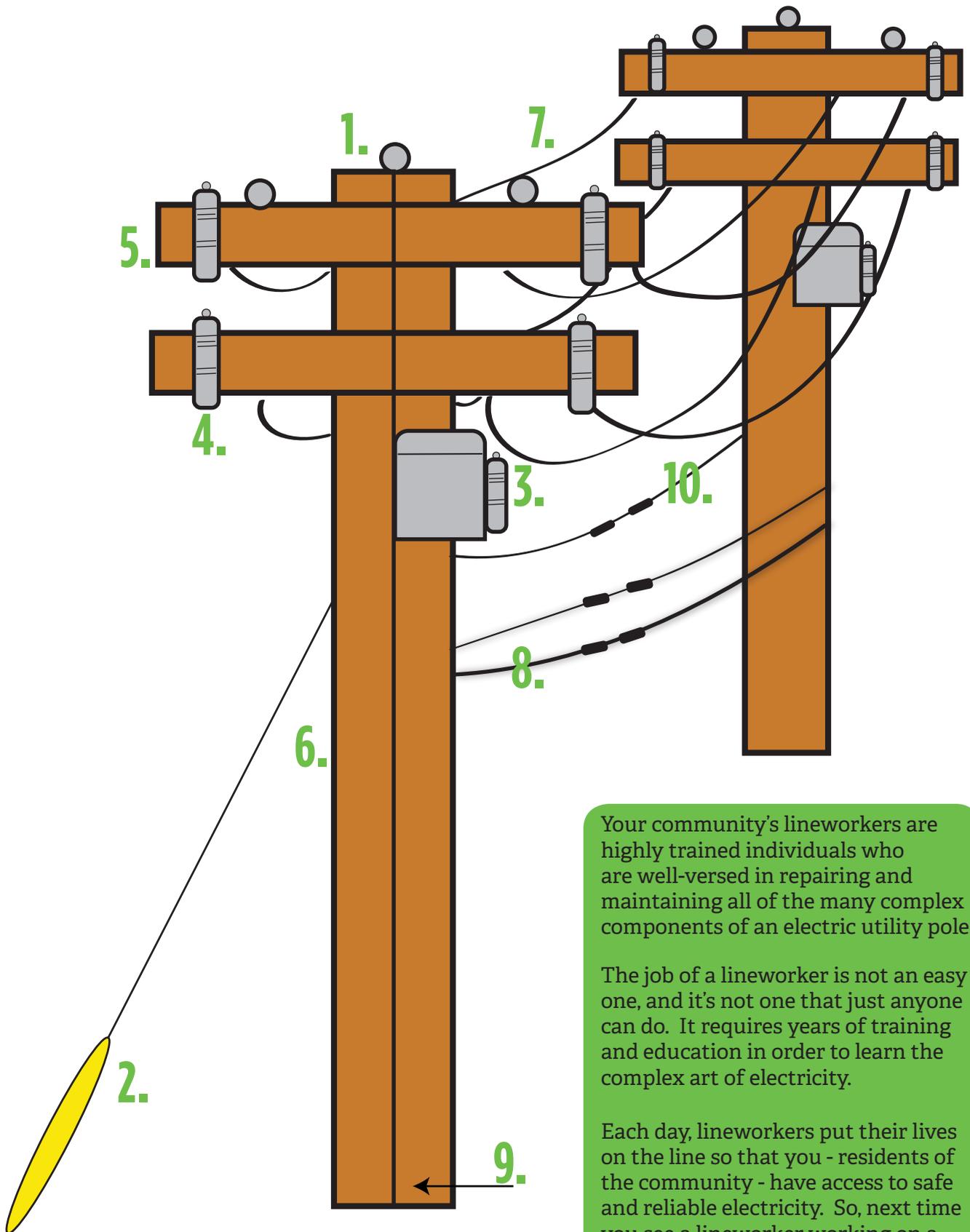
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Anatomy of an Electric Utility Pole

Utility poles are a common sight throughout the United States, as they are located adjacent to many roadways that are visible while driving. While you see these poles every day, have you ever thought about the function of the poles and the lines and attachments that hang onto them?

Utility poles play an important role in electrical distribution, which is a fancy term for how electricity travels to your home or business. All of the lines and attachments that sit on the utility pole play an essential role in this process. Read on to learn more about the different parts that make up your everyday electric power pole.

- 1. Insulator:** The insulator prevents wires from coming into contact with each other on the utility pole, which could cause fires, outages and other dangerous conditions.
- 2. Guy wire:** The guy wire is a tensioned wire that helps to stabilize the utility pole to the ground.
- 3. Transformer:** An electrical device, typically in a metallic enclosure, that converts high voltage electricity to a lower voltage for use in homes and businesses.
- 4. Fuse cutout:** A combination of a fuse and a switch, the fuse cutout is used to protect power lines and other equipment from surges or overloads by disconnecting the power line from a transformer.
- 5. Crossarm:** This horizontal piece of the utility pole is typically made of high-quality wood and holds power lines and other equipment, such as transformers, onto the pole.
- 6. Utility pole:** The utility pole is typically made of wood or steel, and can range in height from 30 feet to more than 100 feet. The pole serves as the backbone for the electric line and holds all of the components and equipment.
- 7. Primary wire:** These wires are on the very top of the utility pole, and usually carry high voltage electricity from a substation.
- 8. Lowest wires:** Utility poles don't just hold electric wires; other wires, such as telephone or cable wires, are also attached to these poles. Typically, these wires are found closest to the ground and are the lowest wire on the utility pole.
- 9. Ground wire:** This wire runs the entire length of the utility pole, directing any electricity on the pole safely into the ground.
- 10. Secondary wire:** Once the high voltage electricity has been converted to a lower voltage, the secondary wire carries that electricity to homes and businesses.



Your community's lineworkers are highly trained individuals who are well-versed in repairing and maintaining all of the many complex components of an electric utility pole.

The job of a lineworker is not an easy one, and it's not one that just anyone can do. It requires years of training and education in order to learn the complex art of electricity.

Each day, lineworkers put their lives on the line so that you - residents of the community - have access to safe and reliable electricity. So, next time you see a lineworker working on a utility pole, stop and thank them for their service to the community.

Flora Utilities

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“We started working to clear debris and restore power really early on Thursday morning, and we worked for most of the day,” stated Ron Fritz, Utility Foreman for Flora Utilities. “The tree damage was the worst part. There were so many tree branches on power lines and also just lying in the road.”

After the electric department determined that more help was needed to clear the debris, the remainder of the employees from Flora Utilities came to assist, starting around 5:00 a.m. All utility employees worked extremely hard, and thanks to their efforts, all power throughout the town was restored by Thursday afternoon.

Whenever there is a power outage, lineworkers and other utility personnel are typically the first people on the scene. These individuals put their lives on the line each time they go to work, especially during extreme weather conditions. The Town of Flora is extremely appreciative of all of its employees, but especially the three men in their electric department - Ron Fritz – Utility Foreman, Kevin Shafer – Senior Lineman and Tom Routt – Apprentice Lineman – who worked diligently through inclement conditions to care for the town and its residents. ●

Town of Flora Welcomes New Utility Clerk

Following the retirement of longtime utility clerk Terri Brummett, the Town of Flora is pleased to welcome Deana Jamison to her new role within the utility. Brummett retired from the position on June 10th after working for the town in various capacities for 18 years, and Jamison took over in her role on June 20th.

Jamison was born and raised in Flora, but moved away after graduating high school to join the United States Navy. After completing her service with the Navy, Jamison moved back to the Flora area and was hired by the town.

In her role as Utility Clerk, Jamison is responsible for handling all utility payments and accounts, assisting customers with questions and various other administrative tasks. “My favorite part about working for the town is having the opportunity to interact with the customers,” said Jamison. “I enjoy talking with people and helping them with any questions that they might have.”

The Town of Flora welcomes Deana and wishes her the best in her new role! ●



Deana Jamison now serves as the new Utility Clerk for the Town of Flora.

Town Receives Grant for Park Updates

The Town of Flora and the Flora Park Board are proud of the Flora Community Park, but knew that some playground updates were much needed. The Town of Flora applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from the Carroll County Community Foundation, which will provide partial matching support to help replace aging playground equipment.

Once the town received notice about the grant, the Flora Town Council began brainstorming ideas of how to best complete the playground project. Flora Town Council Vice-President Vince Seward was aware of a local young man, Lane Simpson, who was seeking a project to help him earn his Eagle Scout designation. Since that time, the Town and Simpson have worked together to help make this playground project a reality.

The new playground is designed for preschool aged children, and will consist of various climbing structures, jungle gyms, swings and more. Once the grounds are ready for construction, Simpson will coordinate volunteers and playground equipment, and will manage the project until its completion. Once finished, the Town of Flora will have a new playground set for some of its youngest residents to enjoy. ●

Tidbits & Trivia

Question: Which type of wire on a utility pole carries the high voltage electricity from a substation?

- a) Secondary wire
- b) Primary wire
- c) Ground wire
- d) None of the above

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.

Substation

noun.

A facility used for switching and/or changing or regulating the voltage of electric energy. A substation may tie generating stations to transmission systems or transmission systems to distribution systems.

IMPA Continues Building Solar Parks in Local Communities

Throughout the last two years, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) has constructed nine solar parks in large and small IMPA communities throughout Indiana. This year, the Agency is in the midst of constructing four additional solar parks in the communities of Anderson, Huntingburg, Waynetown and Washington. These solar parks are all aimed at adding more renewable and economical energy resources to IMPA's power portfolio.

When energy is created by the solar parks, it is then placed onto the local distribution system in whichever town or city the solar park is located in. As the solar power is produced, it becomes a part of all of the electric generation that is supplying the system, which is typically a mixture of power produced via coal, natural gas, solar, wind and nuclear.

The process of generating electricity from the sun may seem to be a complex one, but in reality, is really quite simple. When sunlight

hits the solar panels, the panels convert that energy into direct current electricity. That electricity is transferred to an inverter, located within the solar park. The inverter then takes the direct current electricity and converts it into alternating current (AC) electricity. Once converted to AC, the transformer steps-up the voltage to the proper level, and is then transferred to the interconnection point on the distribution system. The AC meter measures the energy from the solar park prior to its connection to the distribution system and ultimately the customer.

IMPA plans to add approximately 10 megawatts of solar capacity into its overall power portfolio each year, meaning more and more IMPA member communities will have solar parks within the coming years. For more information on IMPA's solar parks, visit www.impa.com.

How does solar generate electricity?



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

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

Correspondent:
Meredith Sauter
Communications Specialist
meredith@impa.com

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

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Centerville	Frankfort	Lebanon	Rising Sun	Waynetown
Chalmers	Frankton	Lewisville	Rockville	Williamsonport
Coatesville	Gas City	Linton	Scottsburg	Winamac

Chicken and Dumpling Casserole

Recipe submitted by Vicky Hicks-Spear of Tell City, Indiana.

- 1 pound chicken breasts
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1/4 cup butter
- 2 cups Bisquick
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 3 tsp. chicken bouillon
- 1/2 tsp. sage
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 1/2 stick butter

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a 9x13 baking pan, melt 1/2 stick butter. Shred chicken and spread over butter. Sprinkle black pepper and sage over the chicken. Do not stir. In a small bowl, mix milk and Bisquick. Slowly pour over chicken. In another medium bowl, whisk together 2 cups of chicken broth, chicken bouillon and soup. Once blended, slowly pour over the Bisquick layer. Bake casserole for 30 to 40 minutes, or until golden brown.

Strawberry Delight

Recipe submitted by Burdett Parsons of Washington, Indiana.

- 1 pre-made angel food cake
- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 16 oz. strawberry glaze
- 16 oz. tub whipped cream
- 1 ^{1/3} cup sugar
- 1 qt. fresh strawberries

Tear angel food cake into pieces and mix with 1/3 of the tub of whipped cream. Put whipped cream mixture into the bottom of a serving dish. Mix the rest of the whipped cream with the cream cheese and the sugar and place on top of the cake. Slice strawberries into quarters and mix with the strawberry glaze. Then, spread the strawberry mixture over the top of the cake.

The Municipal Power News is published by the Indiana
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IMPA Commissioner: Ron Fritz

Save Energy This Fall!

As the summer months wrap up and temperatures begin to cool, take action to ensure that your house and habits are as energy efficient as possible. Read on for helpful tips to save money this fall:

- Schedule regular maintenance for your heating system.
- Take shorter showers. This can save hundreds of gallons of hot water and also reduce water heating costs.
- Replace the air filter in a furnace on a monthly basis. A dirty air filter makes the heating and cooling system work harder, causing wear and tear on the equipment.
- Turn off kitchen and bath ventilation fans after use. If left on, the fans can blow the warm air from inside your home to the outside.

The best way to reduce your electric bill is to do everything you can to make your home more energy efficient. ●