

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Jasper Municipal Electric Utility



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

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A view of the land that will eventually become the Parklands of Jasper. Currently, there is a one mile walking trail that is open to the public every day from dawn to dusk.

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Plans in Place for the Parklands of Jasper

Aimed at becoming a destination within the city, region, and state, the Parklands of Jasper is well on its way to becoming a reality. With plans that boast a pond, trails, adventure playgrounds, shelter houses, an amphitheater, a spray park, cascade falls and more, this park will truly be a one of a kind addition to the City of Jasper.

The Parklands of Jasper has been in the works since 2013, when the city purchased almost 60 acres of land that formerly served as the golf course at the Jasper Country Club. After purchasing the land, the City sought comments and feedback from the public in order to determine how best to use the land. An overwhelming majority opted to utilize the land as a nature preserve or park, thus the idea of the Parklands of Jasper was born. Since then, more land has been added, bringing the

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The Value of Electricity

If a group of people were asked to think of a few items that they cannot live without, a variety of answers may come up: food, water and basic shelter are usually some of the first objects that people may think of. Others may say their smart phones or their tablets. Still others might say their microwaves, televisions or vehicles. While these items run the gamut in terms of necessities and luxuries, they all have one component in common: the utilization of electricity. Without electricity, there would be no refrigerators to store food, or heaters and air conditioners to regulate the temperatures inside homes. Without electricity, there would be no way to power or charge electronics and other appliances. An extended power outage would also make it difficult to fill a car with gasoline and provide clean, filtered water. Virtually all of the necessities and luxuries in life are powered by electricity.

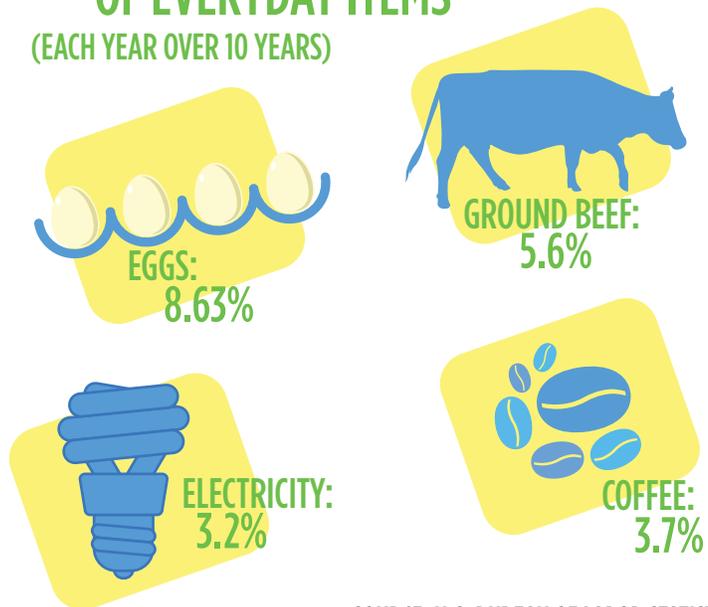
Cost Calculation of Electricity

So, since electricity plays such a vital role in nearly all aspects of life, the cost of electricity must be high to keep up with its demand, right? Actually, no. The cost of electricity is one of the greatest values in today's world. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, a government agency that collects, analyzes, and disseminates information pertaining to energy, the average monthly residential electric bill in Indiana is \$115.56. When that total is divided by the 31 days that make up an

average month, the average cost of electricity per day in Indiana is only \$3.73. That means that you are able to do laundry, prepare meals, watch television, charge smart phones, tablets and laptops, and complete a variety of other tasks at any time of the day or night, all for less than \$5 a day. In today's world, it's difficult to find anything of worth for under \$5, making the value of electricity even more surprising.

Not only is electricity a great value, but its average annual price increase is also low when compared to other daily staples. According to data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the cost of electricity has increased an average of 3.2% each year, over the last ten years. In comparison, the cost of coffee has increased 3.7%, ground beef has increased 5.6% and eggs have increased by 8.63%.

AVERAGE PERCENT PRICE INCREASE OF EVERYDAY ITEMS (EACH YEAR OVER 10 YEARS)



SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Average
Daily Cost of
Electricity in
Indiana

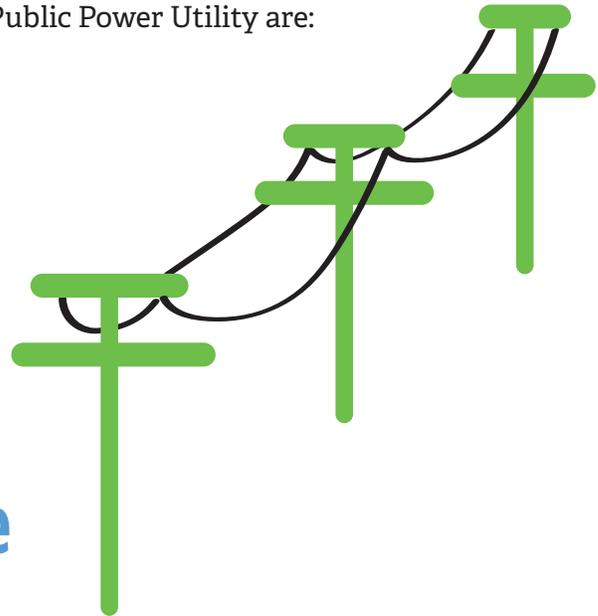


Electricity's average annual price increase is even more impressive when the amount of new technology and the energy it takes to power those devices is taken into consideration. While the advent and invention of new technology has been rapid over the past decade, the cost of electricity has not jumped significantly. Additionally, electricity is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, allowing light switches to be turned on at any hour, and heaters and air conditioners to run through the night. The value of having access to electricity at any time of the day or night for only a few dollars a day makes it one of the most economically advantageous products available.

The Value of an IMPA Community

Electricity is an excellent value all around, but because your community owns its own Municipal Electric Utility, electric rates in your community are even lower than in other towns and cities in Indiana. A Municipal Electric Utility, also sometimes called a Public Power Utility, means that a utility is owned and operated by the town or city in which it is located. Your hometown electric utility purchases low-cost and reliable electricity from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), and then uses its own equipment and infrastructure to deliver power to residents and businesses in the community. Some of the greatest benefits of a Public Power Utility are:

1. Low-cost power
2. Reliability
3. Local, hometown service



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Parklands

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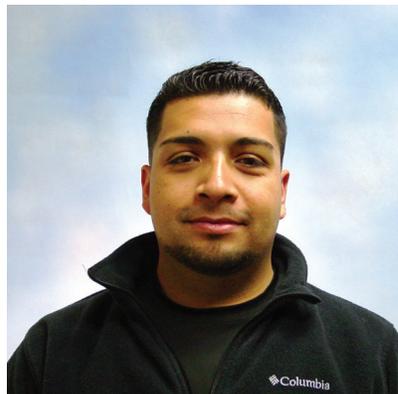
total amount to approximately 75 acres. This addition in land is thanks in part to funding from the Bicentennial Nature Trust, as well as generous donations from the Seger Family, the Nordhoff Family, the Gramespacher Revocable Trust and the Thomas Eversman Revocable Trust.

“The Parklands of Jasper will truly be a destination park for both residents and visitors to the city,” stated Mayor Terry Seitz. “Because of the foresight and collaboration from many community leaders, this park is becoming a reality and will really provide a huge benefit to Jasper.”

While the majority of the Parklands of Jasper are still a work in progress, a one mile walking trail is currently open to the public. This trail is open each day from dawn to dusk and can be accessed by entrances on either 15th Street or the Klubhaus 61 parking lot. Details of the Parklands of Jasper are still in the process of being finalized; however, an initial design proposal was made available to the public in January 2016. City officials hope to fully complete construction on the Parklands of Jasper by Labor Day 2017. ●

People Behind the Power: Utility Personnel

Jasper Municipal Utilities is pleased to welcome three new employees and also congratulate one longstanding employee on his retirement. The Jasper Municipal Electric Department hired two new Apprentice Lineworkers, Henry Calderone and Joshua Creutz, both who began employment on April 18th. In addition, Jasper Municipal Utilities also promoted Tim Doersam to the position of Gas and Water Manager. Doersam has worked for the City of Jasper since 1994, previously serving as the Water Filtration Foreman. Doersam is replacing longtime employee Ernie Hinkle, who retired from his position on June 1st. Hinkle worked for the city for 31 years. The City of Jasper welcomes its three new employees and also wishes Hinkle all the best in his retirement! ●



Henry Calderone, Apprentice Lineworker



Joshua Creutz, Apprentice Lineworker



Tim Doersam, Gas and Water Manager



Ernie Hinkle, Former Gas and Water Manager

Jasper Power Plant Update

After receiving several bids from a request for proposal on the demolition of the Jasper Power Plant, the Jasper Utility Service Board evaluated the proposals and ultimately rejected all of them due to the higher than expected costs. This means that the power plant will remain standing, but will no longer power back up as a coal-burning power plant.

While the power plant will remain as is, the electric utility will maintain certain parts of the power plant such as the turbine and the generator for possible resale value. Additionally, the utility will explore available grant options that will assist with the clean up of certain environmental hazards that are present within the power plant.

The Jasper Power Plant was commissioned in 1968 as a coal-fired power plant, capable of producing 14.5 megawatts of electricity. The power plant provided electricity to the City of Jasper until the mid-2000's when it was shut down due to environmental concerns, as well as increased costs of running, maintaining and managing the power plant. ●

Tidbits & Trivia

Question: Which of the following is a benefit of living in a municipal electric community?

- a) Local, hometown service
- b) Low-cost service
- c) Reliability
- d) All 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 through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within the community.

Joint Action Agency

noun.

A not-for-profit organization of municipal utilities that band together to jointly own and operate generation and transmission facilities to gain economies of scale.

Example: *IMPA is a Joint Action Agency.*

The Value of Electricity

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Municipally owned utilities are often able to provide lower-cost power to their customers than investor-owned utilities because they do not exist to make a profit for shareholders. All money earned by a municipally owned utility is used to cover costs and is invested to improve the electric system for everyone. For example, the average monthly bill for a community that is a Member of IMPA is \$111.62, while the monthly bill for a customer from an investor-owned utility is \$119.42, showing that those who live and work in an IMPA community receive an even greater value in terms of electricity.

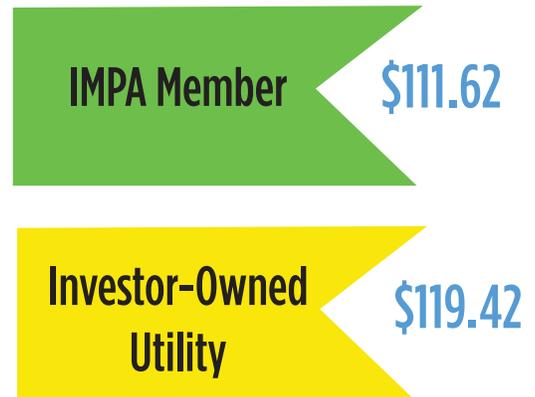
Additionally, a municipally owned utility often provides more reliable power because it is owned by the community that it serves. Whenever there is a problem or a power outage, it is addressed immediately by the employees at the utility. Those employees have a sense of pride and a sense of ownership in the utility because they, too, live in the community that they serve.

Finally, a municipally owned utility prides itself on local, hometown service. Public power employees are your friends and neighbors, and they have the same pride in your community that you do. That pride shows in their work on the utility distribution system – every pole, meter and wire is maintained to the highest standards by someone in the community. If there is a problem with your service and you contact the utility office, you talk with an actual person that works in a local office just a few miles down the road.

The Great Value of Electricity

Electricity is a necessity that is available and ready to be used at any time. For under \$5 a day (and even less if living in a Public Power community!), you have the capability to fully power your homes and businesses. So, next time you flip on a light switch, run a load of laundry, or make a cup of coffee, remember that electricity is not only a necessity in daily life, but that it also offers one of the greatest values of any product or service in today's world.●

Cost of Average Monthly Retail Electric Bill



New Look for the Municipal Power News

Readers of the Municipal Power News may notice something different about the publication: it's now in full color! This change is in response to a growing need for visual imagery, making the newsletter more visually pleasing for its readers.

The Municipal Power News is a periodic publication by the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, your community's wholesale power provider. This newsletter aims to inform readers about local community news as well as relevant and helpful information about power and the electric industry. IMPA welcomes comments, questions and suggestions about the newsletter's new look – please send all comments to newsletter@impa.com or 11610 N. College Ave.; Carmel, IN 46032.

The newsletters are also available online! To receive your newsletter electronically, visit www.impa.com, click on News & Publications, and then Municipal Power News. You can then enter your name, e-mail address and community.●

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 60 communities that it serves with wholesale power.

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Pecan Pie

Recipe submitted by Gail Norton of Washington, Indiana.

- 3 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup dark Karo syrup
- 2 tbsp. vanilla
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 9-inch pie shell
- 2 tbsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 stick (1/4 cup) butter- melted
- 1 1/2 cups pecan halves

Stir eggs, Karo syrup, brown sugar, butter, vanilla and salt until blended. Add pecans to the mixture and coat well. Pour mixture over a 9-inch pie shell. Bake in center of oven 15 minutes at 425 degrees. Turn oven down to 350 degrees and bake another 40 minutes or until center is done.

Smoked Sausage Soup

Recipe submitted by Jean Marion of Rensselaer, Indiana.

- 1/2 pound smoked peeled sausage
- 2 cups frozen corn
- 1 rib of celery
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- salt and pepper to taste
- 6 medium potatoes, and diced
- 1 can chicken broth
- 1/4 cup sliced carrots
- 1/2 tsp. onion powder
- 2/3 cup shredded cheese

Dice and brown the 1/2 pound of smoked sausage until done. Set the sausage aside and add the remaining ingredients into a large stockpot. Bring to a boil and then reduce to a simmer. Add the sausage, and simmer for 15 minutes.

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IMPA Commissioner: Jerry Schitter

Jasper Municipal Electric Utility Plans for Summer Projects

During the spring and summer months, the Jasper Municipal Electric Utility takes advantage of the nicer weather and warmer temperatures to work on several infrastructure projects aimed at increasing reliability and decreasing power outages throughout the city. One such project will take place in the Grassland Hills Subdivision, located on the northwest side of the city. The utility is replacing the 35 year old primary line with a new line, which will improve safety and reliability within the area.

Another infrastructure project will take place near the Badendorff Arms Apartments on the north side of the city. This project consists of moving the above ground electric lines and burying them underground. Moving the electric infrastructure underground reduces the chance of a power outage due to inclement weather, and also can save money by not having to maintain the utility poles that an above ground electric line would be housed on. Both the Badendorff Arms Apartment as well as the Grassland Hills projects are expected to be completed by the end of the summer.●