

Municipal Power News



Bainbridge Municipal Electric Department

Volume 28, Issue 1 | Spring 2023



Protect Your Community's Drinking Water

When you turn on the faucet, it's easy to forget about what goes into ensuring that clean and safe drinking water is available. While Bainbridge has state-of-the-art water treatment facilities, the source of the town's drinking water is groundwater, which is produced from wells located in and around the community. As a result, the actions of Bainbridge residents can end up affecting the local drinking water, for better or for worse.

To help protect the underground aquifer and the water supply wells from potential contamination, Bainbridge developed a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHP) two decades ago, originally approved by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in 2001. Since that time, a local team meets annually to update the plan and implement management strategies to protect Bainbridge's drinking water source. A complete copy of the WHP plan and other educational pamphlets are available to the public at the Bainbridge Town Hall, as well as on the town's website at www.townofbainbridge.com.

-continued on page 4

Inside this Issue

Page 2

IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott

Winter storm reminds the utility industry of the importance of reliability.

Page 4

Tidbits and Trivia

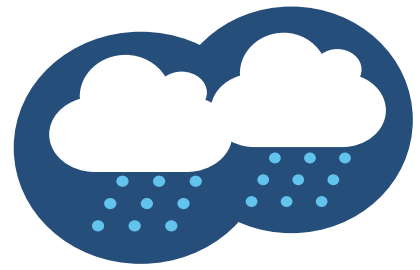
Give your answer for a chance to win a prize from IMPA!

Page 7

How Do I Save Energy in Cold Weather?

See how readers of the newsletter responded to this question.

IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



From December 22 to the 26 of 2022, Winter Storm Elliott swept across North America, causing record low temperatures and severe winter conditions throughout the United States. Snowfall, ice, and blizzard-like conditions blew through much of the Midwest while hazardous road conditions kept many of us hunkered down inside through the holidays. During these days of sub-zero temperatures, approximately 1.5 million utility customers throughout the country lost power (according to www.poweroutage.us).

Fortunately, Indiana utility customers were only a small portion of those without power, and the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) worked diligently with neighboring utilities and the state's Regional Transmission Organizations to ensure the reliability of the power grid. IMPA's seven combustion turbines—totaling 249 megawatts (MW) of capacity in Anderson, Indiana, and Richmond, Indiana—were staffed and operational through the winter storm. The Anderson and Richmond units are run by IMPA employees who worked day and night through December's winter storm to ensure power was delivered to utility customers. These units,

which primarily run on natural gas and are built to operate in temperatures down to -20 degrees Fahrenheit, are a vital dispatchable resource in extreme weather events due to their capability to utilize ultra-low sulfur No. 2 fuel oil as a backup. The backup fuel allowed the units to run and provide power during the whole severe winter weather event.

Other staff members who were out in the field during the cold weather event included IMPA Service Corp's linemen and operations employees who responded to outages in member communities. During Winter Storm Elliott, IMPA Service Corp's crews responded to eight IMPA member communities to assist with power restoration to keep utility customers warm in their homes.

IMPA is grateful to the dedicated staff members who braved the historic winter conditions to ensure the rest of us could remain safe and warm at home. The Agency's reliability, whether during a typical day or an extreme period of uncertainty, is its upmost priority. Now, as we head toward the warmer weather of spring, IMPA looks forward to continuing its legacy of reliable operations and excellent electric service for all member communities. •

How Does Reliable Electricity Reach Me?

Your power is unique as it is distributed not by a for-profit electric utility, but rather by your municipally-owned, locally controlled electric utility. Your municipal electric utility—also known as a “public power” utility—receives its power from the Indiana Municipal Power Agency, a not-for-profit organization created by 61 public power utilities in the Midwest. This is where your electricity begins!

STEP 1

IMPA is the wholesale power provider to your community, meaning that it produces or purchases electricity (depending on what is most economically advantageous) and transmits that energy to your local utility. IMPA's power supply portfolio is made up of coal, natural gas, solar, wind, and nuclear energy. By providing its member communities with power from multiple sources, IMPA can maintain stable costs.

STEP 2

Once the power is generated, no matter from which type of resource, a set of equipment located within a substation is used to “step up” the electricity's voltage. A higher voltage means that the electricity can travel longer distances over high-voltage transmission lines with lower energy losses.



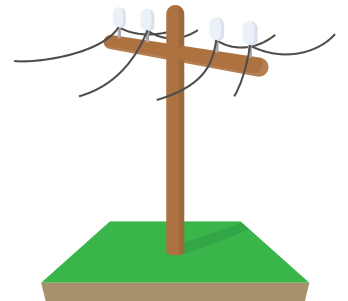
STEP 3

Once “stepped-up,” the electricity is sent along transmission lines, allowing it to reach IMPA's member communities. IMPA jointly owns a portion of the state's transmission system, which covers about 2/3 of Indiana.



STEP 4

Once the electricity reaches a community like yours, it is “stepped down” by a local substation, bringing the power to a lower voltage that will allow it to travel on your local community's distribution power lines.



STEP 5

The power then travels along local distribution lines owned by your public power utility to reach homes and businesses in the community.



Tidbits & Trivia

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 provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio, who collectively make up the Agency's membership.

Question: What is one benefit of driving an electric vehicle rather than a gas-powered car?



Send your answer to newsletter@impa.com, along with your name, e-mail address, and address for a chance to win an energy efficiency prize pack!

Reader Survey

Is there more about your community that you would like to know? Do you have questions about how public power or your municipally-owned utility works? Would you like to learn more tips and tricks as to how you can improve your home's energy efficiency?

Reach out to newsletter@impa.com to suggest topics for future *Municipal Power News* newsletters and let us know what articles you enjoy most, and what you'd like to see next!



Protect Community's Drinking Water

-continued from page 1

Bainbridge's municipal utility asks that residents do their part in protecting the community's drinking water. Check out these tips to help protect the town's shared drinking water source!

- Recycle oil, automotive fluids, batteries, and other products. Don't dispose of hazardous products in toilets, storm drains, wastewater systems, creeks, alleys, or the ground as this pollutes the water supply.
- Reduce the number of fertilizers, pesticides, or any other hazardous chemicals as much as possible. Buy only what is needed, so disposal is not necessary. Try using organic lawn and garden alternatives that do not contain synthetic chemicals.



- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on the lawn or other unpaved surface. Dirty, soapy water should not flow into a nearby storm drain or ditch as this can also pollute waterways.
- When going for a walk with a pet, remember to pick up waste and properly dispose of it by flushing it down a toilet.

- Sweep up yard debris rather than hosing down areas. Compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Check cars, boats, motorcycles, and other machinery for leaks and spills. Place drip pans under leaking vehicles/equipment and make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material such as cat litter or sand and properly dispose of the material. Never rinse spills with water or into a nearby storm drain or allow a spill to soak into the ground.
- Store household hazardous waste for Tox-Away Day, held each spring at the Putnam County Fairgrounds.
- The town of Bainbridge feels that drinking water protection is in the hands of all citizens. Residents should assist their community in the efforts to ensure that a clean water source is available for current needs and a supply is preserved for future generations.

For more information, contact Eric Gibson, Utility Superintendent, at (765) 522-6238. •

What's the Word?

Gas Turbine Plant

noun

A facility which uses natural gas or other liquid fuels to power a combustion turbine and generate electricity. The first true gas turbine was patented in 1791!

IMPA owns seven combustion turbines and associated facilities totaling 419 MW in the aggregate. These include three units in Anderson, IN, two near Richmond, IN, and two in Indianapolis, IN. IMPA employees operate and maintain the combustion turbines located in Anderson and Richmond, while the plant in Indianapolis is operated and maintained under a contract with a separate utility that has two other units at the same facility.

Cooking Corner

Broccoli Casserole

Recipe submitted by Kimberly of Paoli, Indiana

- 2 lbs broccoli, frozen or cooked
- 1 roll ritz crackers, crumbled
- 1/2 lb velveeta, cubed
- 1 stick butter divided in half

Cook broccoli according to package directions. Add velveeta and 1/2 stick butter. Cook until melted. Butter a 2 qt casserole dish. Pour broccoli into casserole dish. Pour crumbled crackers on top. Melt remaining 1/2 stick butter and pour on crackers. Bake on 350 degrees for 30 minutes and enjoy!

White Mountain Salad

Recipe submitted by Jean of Middletown, Indiana

- 1 small can crushed pineapple (in juice)
- 1 can chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1 eight oz tub cool whip (thawed)
- 1 can Eagle brand milk

In a large bowl, stir all ingredients together. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours.

“When I take this recipe to a dinner, I always get several requests for the recipe!” - Jean

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.

Editor: Niki Dick
Senior Director of Marketing Communications

Correspondent:
Whitney Hicks
Communications Coordinator

MEMBERS

Advance
Anderson
Argos
Bainbridge
Bargersville
Blanchester, OH
Bremen
Brooklyn
Brookston
Centerville
Chalmers
Coatesville
Columbia City

Covington
Crawfordsville
Darlington
Dublin
Dunreith
Edinburgh
Etna Green
Flora
Frankfort
Frankton
Gas City
Greendale
Greenfield

Huntingburg
Jamestown
Jasper
Kingsford Heights
Knightstown
Ladoga
Lawrenceburg
Lebanon
Lewisville
Linton
Middletown
Montezuma
New Ross

Paoli
Pendleton
Peru
Pittsboro
Rensselaer
Richmond
Rising Sun
Rockville
Scottsburg
South Whitley
Spiceland
Straughn
Tell City

Thorntown
Tipton
Troy
Veedersburg
Walkerton
Washington
Waynetown
Williamsport
Winamac

How Do I Save Energy in Hot Weather?

Last year, we asked *Municipal Power News* readers, “What are some of the methods you use to reduce your energy consumption in hot weather?” Here’s what Kenneth had to say!

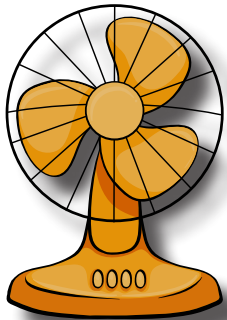
“Our answer at home is to close the drapes, blinds, and try to cook with the air fryer, microwave, or outside on the grill instead of using the stove or oven on the really hot days. We’ve already purchased new thermo sliding glass doors with blinds and low-e ratings. We’ve also spray-foamed the basement

walls and the underside of the roof. For a 1964 house, we feel pretty efficient.

At work, we try to close the blinds and raise the thermostat a degree or two. We also bought two digital smart thermostats and replaced the old mercury bulb sliders.”

-Kenneth E

That’s a great answer, full of energy efficiency tips! Below are a few other ways you and your family can save on energy this summer.

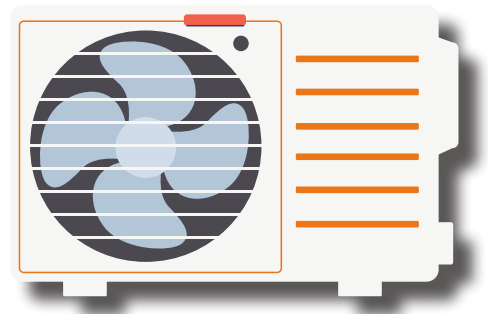


Energy Efficiency Tip #1

Use fans around your home to circulate cool air. Set ceiling fans to turn counter clockwise, as this will push air down and create a cooler feeling in the room.

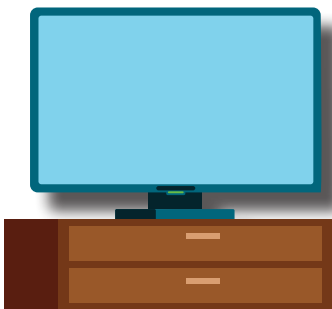
Energy Efficiency Tip #2

Replace air filters in your home with each season. Dirty air filters can cause your system to work harder and longer, using unnecessary energy as a result.



Energy Efficiency Tip #3

Keep lamps and TV sets away from your thermostat. Thermostats can sense the heat that these items give off, which can cause the A/C to run longer than required.



Indiana Municipal Power Agency
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Indianapolis, IN
Permit # 9555

The Municipal Power News is published
by the Indiana Municipal Power
Agency and Bainbridge Municipal
Electric Department.

IMPA Commissioner: Nolan Ensor

Public Meetings in Bainbridge

Did you know that the public is welcome to attend all Town Council meetings and Utility Board meetings hosted in Bainbridge? Both of these meetings are held in the Town Hall on the second Thursday of each month, starting with the Utility Board meeting at 6:00pm and following with the Town Council meeting at 7:00pm. Bainbridge residents and business owners are encouraged to come to let their voices be heard, and to learn about what developments are occurring in the community. •

