

Municipal Power News



Bargersville Utilities
Volume 28, Issue 1 | Summer 2023



Kephart Park Opens

After years of planning and construction, the long-anticipated Kephart Park plans to open in Bargersville this summer. The park will give locals and visitors access to six acres of public gathering space, including a splash pad, pickleball courts, trails, and playground equipment, among other amenities. The park will also supply public WiFi to visitors as a part of the county's effort to expand fiber-internet service.

Just before this summer began, Kephart Park also achieved a fundraising goal that will provide funding for the park's operations and additional equipment. By raising \$50,000 in donations through a crowdfunding website called Patronicity, Kephart Park has earned matching funding from the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority, bringing the park an additional \$100,000. During initial development stages, much of the funding to complete construction of the park came to the town through the American Rescue Plan, or COVID-19 Stimulus Package.

Kephart Park is a part of Bargersville's wider Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Through the plan, the Town of Bargersville hopes to create a diverse

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

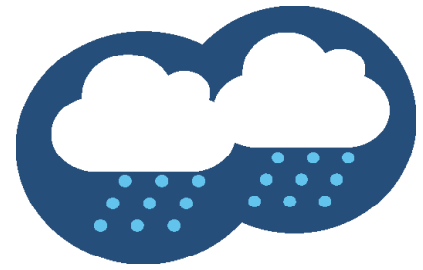
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IMPA Responds to Winter Storm Elliott



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.



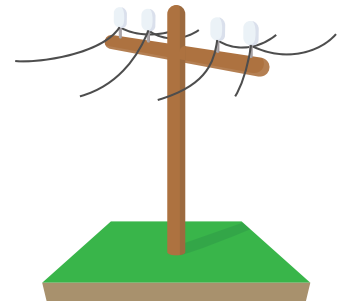
STEP 3

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!



Kephart Park

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parks and recreation system that provides activities and facilities for varying age groups and seasons. The COVID-19 pandemic truly emphasized the importance of outdoor spaces and parks, and the community's leaders recognized a need to expand upon the local parks system through the public health emergency. Though projects like Kephart Park were already in the works by 2020, COVID-19, and the federal funding that came about as a result, helped to accelerate the process of establishing more public green spaces.

As described by a previous Master Plan, the opening of Kephart Park is a priority for improving local quality of life and wellness:

"The completion of the park is not only important in relation to the unmet



My Bargersville App

Residents and business owners of Bargersville have the opportunity to become a civic citizen and engage with the town like never before. By downloading the free MyBargersville app onto a smart device, users will have access to direct communication with town officials, information regarding each town department, and utility bill pay in the palm of their hands. Visit the App Store or Google Play Store on your smart device today to access everything you need to stay connected to your town at your fingertips! •

needs it will address, it is also important for the Town to demonstrate to residents that it is ready to begin expanding toward a larger parks and recreation-focused future. With impending population growth, it is paramount to create features and attractions that are unique to Bargersville that will enhance the existing community fabric while attracting new residents.”

With Kephart Park opening soon, be sure to plan a visit to the town’s most recent amenity on County Road 144. For those interested, you can also view the most up-to-date Parks and Recreation Master Plan by visiting the town’s website at:

bargersville.in.gov/services/planning___zoning/town_projects.php •

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.

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How Do I Save Energy in Cold Weather?

In the last issue of the Municipal Power News, we asked what are some of the methods you use to reduce your energy consumption in cold weather. Here is what some of you said!

“I have reduced my energy consumption due to my purchase of long cloth door tubes that resemble snakes. They are the draft prevention cloth tubes approximately 36” x 3 1/2” filled with beans or double tubes with center strips. They can be placed in the home at the bottom of outside doors or where drafts enter under doors inside a home. The double tube style can slide under

the storm door outside the house door---one tube outside the storm door and the other tube set between the storm door and the inside house door. These can also be used on doors in cold rooms with closed doors to stop drafts. This is really great in blocking cold air at the floor level that cause cold feet and drafts.”

- Jean

“I often use an infrared/radiant space heater that is thermostat-controlled. During the day I close off unused rooms so my living room/kitchenette is comfortably warm. The glow of the radiant heater is pleasing like a fireplace. You definitely need to wear insulated slippers or plush socks indoors in

addition to layered clothing. Wearing indoor weather-appropriate clothing, I can keep my heater set on a lower temperature—generally less than 65 degrees. My furnace, in comparison, needs to be set at 70+ degrees to maintain satisfactory room warmth.”

- Penny

“During the cold weather months, the most effective method for reducing my energy consumption is by closing off rooms that do not necessarily have to be heated all day. I also put plastic on any drafty windows and use draft stoppers for my doors. I’ve replaced

most of my home’s light bulbs with energy efficient LED bulbs and I change my furnace filter often. Room darkening curtains help keep the heat in and as the famous saying goes, I never let the water run!”

- Tiffany

“The method that I use most is to wear warmer clothes in the house. I know that there are people who want to sit around the house in shorts and t-shirts, and run around the house in bare feet, all the while having

their thermostat turned way up. That makes no sense to me. Today, for instance, it’s 14° outside. The thermostat is set at 68° inside. I’m wearing a flannel shirt with a puffy vest, long pants, and shoes.”

- Bruce

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The Municipal Power News is published
by the Indiana Municipal Power
Agency and Bargersville Utilities.

IMPA Commissioner: Kevin Killinger

Bargersville Utilities Hosts Field Trip!

On May 16, staff with Bargersville Utilities was excited to take local school students on a tour of the town's wastewater plant! Students who attended learned about plant operations, the many roles that staff play at the facility each day, and got hands-on experience with some of the facility's equipment. Many thanks to the utility workers of Bargersville who spent the day teaching Johnson County youth about what goes on behind the scenes. •



Photos from
www.facebook.com/bargersvilletown