

Municipal Power News



Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities

Volume 28, Issue 3 | Winter 2024



Kinnett's Corner

Lawrenceburg Municipal Utilities Director, Billy Kinnett

Winter cheers and blessings to all of you. Hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We had another award-winning year for the LMU Christmas Parade float. Our office staff, electric department, water, sewer and metering department all chipped in to work on the float. I am totally impressed with the creativity they put in the float each year. Our LMU staff are very talented and caring people.

We are very excited to see the significant improvements that will be made throughout Lawrenceburg in the next couple of years. Revitalization of the Liberty Theater, the new Lawrenceburg Riverwalk project on the Ohio River, the open-air pavilion that will be installed as part of the Lawrenceburg Civic Park and the Lawrenceburg Alleywalk project will all be wonderful improvements for Lawrenceburg. So much activity and so many more great things to come in Lawrenceburg within the next 2 years. Lawrenceburg is truly a City on the Rise.

Here at LMU, we are almost complete with our electric and water meter replacement programs. We have been working on these meter replacements

for three years. This was a project that was well overdue. Thank you for your cooperation and patience through this meter replacement process.

We completed the GIS mapping project in 2023 and we now have the electric, water, sewer and stormwater facilities on an electronic mapping system. This project provides a substantial amount of detailed information about our utility systems and allows us to plan for and identify opportunities for improvements. The mapping project was a big undertaking. Many people within LMU, the City of Lawrenceburg and our outside contractors worked closely together to make this project a huge success.

We will complete our Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project in 2024 or early 2025. The AMI metering technology allows us to continuously monitor and troubleshoot our electric and water systems to improve our response time and reliability. In utilizing this system, we have been able to find problems and fix them extremely quickly, sometimes before the customers even realize there was a problem.

Here's to a great 2024 and go Tigers! •



Winter Safety with IMPA!

The winter season is upon us, and while it is the least favorite time of year for many, preparing for the cold can help things go over a bit more smoothly. Use this time to remind yourself and your loved ones about the following safety tips that will help everyone enjoy the time to come as best as they can.

Driving

- Drive slowly and attentively in icy or snowy conditions. Give yourself plenty of time to get to your destination.
- Keep your vehicle's gas tank as full as possible throughout the winter season. This can prevent your fuel lines from freezing, which can result in your car not starting.
- Dress warmly and keep an extra set of clothes and blankets in the car.
- Avoid using backroads, as major streets and highways will have better clearance in bad conditions.



Avoiding Fires

- Never plug a space heater into an extension cord or power strip - only plug them directly into an outlet.
- Never leave a space heater, lit fireplace, or candles unattended for long periods of time.
- Portable generators can be great during a winter power outage, but keep in mind that they pose fire and carbon monoxide poisoning risks. Never run a generator indoors or in enclosed areas, and keep fuel containers away from heating devices.

Snow Removal

- Before going outside to clear snow from a driveway or walkway, be sure to stretch just like you would before regular exercise.
- When shoveling snow, be sure to stay hydrated and avoid overexertion. Take frequent breaks to let your body rest, as cold weather can put a unique strain on your heart and lungs.
- Keep dry while working outside with snow. Wet clothes will make your body lose heat faster.



How Does Public Power Work?

The transmission lines stretching across the country carry electricity to households and businesses nationwide. However, some of the electricity travels to customers served by investor-owned utilities (IOUs) or rural electric cooperatives (REMCs), while other households like yours are served by a public power utility. Your community, as a member of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), buys its electricity from the Agency before selling it to you and bringing it to your door. The electricity that your community purchases is called wholesale power—it is supplied to your local public power utility for resale to retail customers of the utility. By purchasing wholesale power in bulk, the member utilities of IMPA are able to provide electricity with the economic advantages than if they were to individually generate the power themselves or purchase it elsewhere. Your community takes advantage of this benefit, since all 61 member communities of IMPA work together to purchase power in bulk through the Agency.

Member utilities of IMPA have contracts with the Agency to ensure that all the electric needs of the community are met. IMPA, by either generating power at a

generation facility or purchasing it from other utilities, places the power on the electric grid through transmission lines.

The high voltage electricity travels across the grid on these transmission lines to your community. Before the electricity gets to your residence, a substation transformer is used to lower the voltage of the electricity to make it safer to travel across shorter distances than the transmission lines cover. This lower voltage also makes it safer for the electricity to be in closer proximity to traffic and people. Once electricity goes through the transformer in the substation, it moves through distribution lines in your local community to a transformer at homes and businesses. It then arrives at your home and allows you to turn on the lights, heat your home, and watch tv.

Public power utilities are not just there to provide power – they work for the betterment of the community, too. These utilities are embedded in the fabric of their communities—boosting community investment, supporting local education, and getting involved with beautification and charitable programs. As a result, public power customers benefit from affordable energy, better service, local control, and a utility that cares about the overall well-being and growth of your community. •



At IMPA Board Meetings, a representative from your community helps guide the direction and decisions of the Agency.

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.

What are some of the benefits of public power?



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!

What's the Word?

Investigating Power Terminology

Distribution Lines

Utilities use distribution lines to transport electricity from the larger transmission system to individual customer homes and businesses. You may see transmission lines while driving on a highway, but the utility lines you see on the streets of your community are distribution lines.

Distribution lines bring electricity to its final stage of delivery. As a member of a public power utility, your town or city owns and operates the distribution lines in your community.



Employee Spotlight: Scott DeHamer

Scott DeHamer has been with Lawrenceburg Utilities since April 2007. He obtained his Journeyman Lineman certification in 2011. Scott enjoys working for the community as well as the camaraderie with his coworkers. Outside of work, Scott enjoys spending time with his family and watching his kids in their sporting events.

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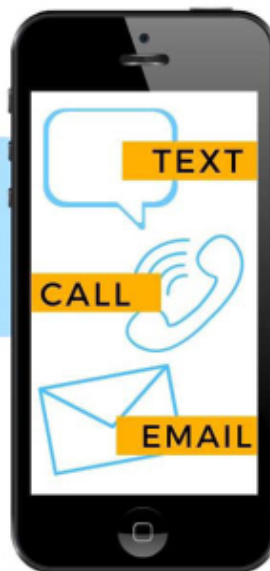
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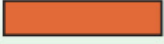



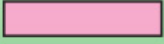
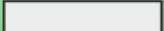
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Cooking Corner

Eggnog Bread

Recipe submitted by Susan of Richmond, Indiana

For a chance to be featured in the newsletter and win a prize, send your recipe to:

MPN Recipes
11610 N. College Ave.
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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.

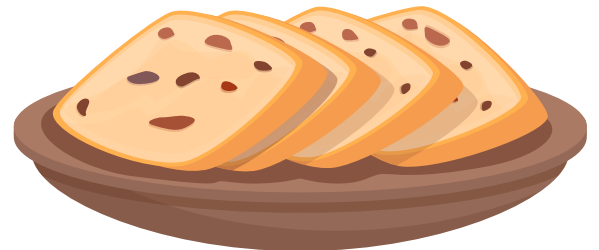
Editor: Niki Dick
Senior Director of Marketing Communications

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Whitney Hicks
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- 2 large eggs
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup skim milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup orange juice
- 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups eggnog
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup canola oil
- 1 tbsp grated orange zest
- 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 2 tbsp baking powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp salt
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground nutmeg
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup dried cranberries
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup chopped macadamia nuts

Preheat oven to 350°F. Whisk wet ingredients together with orange zest in a bowl. In another bowl, combine all dry ingredients except for cranberries and macadamia nuts. Add the liquid mixture to the dry mixture, carefully stirring until the flour is moistened. Fold in cranberries and nuts. Grease and flour 2 loaf pans and pour in batter. Bake for 50-60 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes, then remove wire racks to cool completely. Slice and serve with orange marmalade. Or, to serve without a spread, use the glaze below.

In a small bowl, mix:
- 1 tbsp eggnog
- $\frac{3}{8}$ cup confectioner's sugar



Drizzle mixture over the cooled loaves

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How Do I Save Energy in Cold Weather?

Last year, we asked readers of the *Municipal Power News* some of the methods they use to reduce 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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IMPA Commissioner: Billy Kinnett

Lawrenceburg Riverwalk

The long-awaited Lawrenceburg Riverwalk project is Coming Soon! The City of Lawrenceburg is creating a beautiful and accessible public space along the Dearborn Trail and on the Ohio River, perfect for walking, biking, dining, and enjoying the outdoors. New gangway bridges will provide access to an enhanced floating park with two restaurants and docking for personal boats and larger vessels.

The enhanced Lawrenceburg Riverwalk on the Levee will feature a wide paved walkway with overhangs and plenty of space for pedestrians, cyclists, swings, and benches. Improvements to the end of Walnut Street will make the Lawrenceburg Riverwalk feel like a seamless extension of downtown.

The new barges will include two restaurants with casual dining and spaces for strolling, gatherings and events that contribute to the City of Lawrenceburg as a premier river city destination.

We are excited to share the Lawrenceburg Riverwalk with our community and can't wait to see you there!

Discover Lawrenceburg ~ A City on the Rise!

