

# MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Town of Rockville



**IMPA**  
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 22, Issue 3



The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) and its engineering and operations subsidiary, IMPA Service Corp, have assisted with updating much of Rockville's electrical infrastructure.

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## IMPA Assists Rockville with Electric Reliability Upgrades

**A**fter the Town of Rockville and its electric department completed its five-year improvement plan in 2015, the community hired IMPA Service Corp to assist with updating much of the town's electrical infrastructure. IMPA Service Corp is the engineering and operations subsidiary of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Rockville's wholesale power provider.

This past fall, IMPA Service Corp completed a pole replacement project on Michigan Street in downtown Rockville, stretching from West York Street south to Leatherwood Alley. This project consisted of replacing roughly 15 utility poles and upgrading electrical infrastructure such as conductors and lines. Many of the utility poles were over 30 years old and in need of replacing due

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# Public Power Lineworkers: A S

**W**hen severe weather strikes, the first instinct is often to hunker down inside and wait for the storm to pass. Lineworkers across the state and the country know that when severe weather hits, it's time to get to work. A portion of a lineworker's job demands working in inclement weather conditions for long periods of time, often during the middle of the night. These lineworkers put their lives on the line each day to ensure that everyone in their cities and towns has access to reliable electricity. Read on to meet a few lineworkers from Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) member communities across the state.

## Colin Leinenbach - Huntingburg Electric Utility



"This can be a dangerous job, and my first year as an apprentice, I wasn't sure if I could do it. But, I learned to trust the other people that I work with. They keep me safe and they keep me alive, and we have a real bond. It's a dangerous job and it's a hard job, but it's worth it to know that I'm helping keep the lights on for our city."

Colin has worked for the City of Huntingburg in various capacities for six years and has been an apprentice lineworker for the last four years. Colin is in his final year in the apprenticeship program and is set to graduate and receive his certification in March 2017. Colin is also a recent graduate of the Dubois County Leadership Academy.

## Myron McAlister - Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power



"The best part of this job is that I learn something new every day. Even though I've been a lineworker for basically my entire adult life, I know that I don't know everything. There are definitely some storms that I'll never forget, but it has all been worth it. I'm glad I made the choice to become a lineworker, and I would encourage others to think about this as a career."

Myron has worked for Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power (CEL&P) for 41 years and will retire on February 28, 2017. IMPA and CEL&P thank Myron for his decades of service to CEL&P as well as to public power as a whole.

# A Staple in their Communities

## Greg Gayler - Darlington Light & Power



"Over the past few years in Darlington, I've really tried to make the electric system more reliable for the people who live here. It's a small town, but we all care about each other. That's what makes it worth it to go out in bad weather. I see that people appreciate it, and I want to do what's right for our town."

Greg has been with the Town of Darlington for the past eight years, but has 35 years of experience as a lineworker. He is the recipient of the American Public Power Association's Larry Hobart Seven Hats Award, which is a national award that recognizes utility managers who serve in the nation's smallest public power communities.

## Jeff McNew - Lebanon Utilities



"When I first started as a lineworker, I really didn't know a lot about the job, but the longer I worked, the more I liked it. I enjoy climbing the poles, being outside and working with the other lineworkers. Sometimes people will come up to us and tell us how much they appreciate what we do, which always makes you feel good. It's hard to work in the rain, ice and snow, but it's worth it."

Jeff has been a lineworker with Lebanon Utilities for four years. Jeff was recently named Apprentice Lineworker of the Year by the Indiana Municipal Electric Association and will compete this spring at the national American Public Power Association's Lineworkers Rodeo.

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, knows just how hard these lineworkers work, each and every day. We salute lineworkers from our member communities for putting their lives on the line each day, ensuring that each resident and business across all 61 of IMPA's member communities has access to safe and reliable electricity. ●

# Help Save Energy by Reducing Usage During Peak Periods

In the electric utility industry, the term “peak demand” is used frequently. Learning more about peak demand, how it affects monthly electric charges and what you can do to help reduce the demand may lead to a lower electric bill.

Peak demand is the greatest amount of electricity that Rockville Municipal Utilities must supply to all of its customers at any given time in a single month. The electric utility’s goal is to provide every customer with reliable electric power whenever it is needed. Therefore, Rockville must be prepared to supply the maximum amount of electricity that might be demanded at any given time. When a month’s peak demand occurs, it is not known until the end of the month, but peak demand most often happens when people are at home, using electricity.

During the work day, most people are not home, therefore they are not operating appliances and air conditioning units and lights may be turned off. When residents return home after work though, they turn their lights on, watch television, turn down the air conditioner, cook dinner and do other energy-using activities. This spike in energy usage happens all across the community and, depending on the weather, may result in the month’s peak demand.

Taking steps to change your energy usage habits can help reduce a community’s peak demand, which in turn may reduce your electric bill. During peak demand periods, usually from noon to 7:00 p.m., turn off all unnecessary lights and electric equipment, including fans, air conditioners and televisions. These efforts do make a difference. By being an energy conservationist each day, you can help reduce your community’s electric peak demand, as well as your overall electricity usage. To save electricity on a daily basis, consider the following tips:

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Turn off and unplug electronics such as coffee makers, microwaves, televisions and computers when not in use.
- Choose energy efficient appliances and lightbulbs when those items need to be replaced.●

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## Reliability

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to signs of rot, wear and tear. Now that this project is complete, the town has access to more reliable electricity and also has a backup in case of a power outage. In order to pay for these much-needed reliability upgrades, the Rockville Town Council approved flat rate charges, which are visible on customer’s electric bills. Residential customers will see a \$2 per month customer charge and commercial customers will notice a \$10 per month flat rate charge. These new charges will allow the electric utility to continue updating major distribution lines, which will provide better service and reliability for Rockville residents and businesses.

Rockville and the IMPA Service Corp have plans in place to continue upgrading various infrastructure points throughout 2017, all in an effort to ensure that the town has access to reliable electricity for decades to come.●

# Space Heater Safety

**E**lectric space heaters are commonly used throughout the winter months as a supplement to a furnace or fireplace. These heaters are handy when trying to heat only one room in a house or when a room has inadequate heating capabilities, but can cause safety concerns. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, approximately 25,000 residential fires and 300 deaths occur each year due to the improper use of space heaters. Read on for tips on how to safely use a space heater – and stay warm this winter.

- **Never leave a space heater unattended. While it may be tempting to turn a space heater on before going to sleep, this is a dangerous practice. Always turn off and unplug a space heater before leaving a room.**
- **Proper placement of a space heater is critical to staying safe. The space heater should be at least three feet away from anything that can burn, including clothing, furniture, rugs or paper.**
- **Space heaters should sit on flat, level surfaces. Never place space heaters on rugs, carpet, cabinets or tables, as this could easily start a fire.●**

## Tidbits & Trivia

**Question:** How many peregrine falcon chicks hatched at IMPA's co-owned generating unit, Trimble County Station, in 2016?

- a) 38 chicks
- b) 5 chicks
- c) 10 chicks
- d) 3 chicks

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.

## Generation

The actual creation of electricity at power plants or a generating station.

*IMPA's generation portfolio includes seven coal-fired units, seven combustion turbine units and 13 solar parks.*

# Trimble County Station's Wildlife Preserve Helps Save Endangered Species

**T**he Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), your community's wholesale power provider, is passionate about providing affordable and reliable electricity, but is equally passionate about environmental responsibility and preserving our country's natural resources. One of IMPA's co-owned generating stations, Trimble County Station, is a great example of how the two seemingly opposite services – power production and environmental responsibility – can merge together as one.

Trimble County Station is a two-unit station located in Kentucky that generates a total of 1,274 Megawatts (MW) of power of which IMPA owns 162 MW. Trimble County Station, a baseload generating station whose mission is to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is an integral component of IMPA's power portfolio. It provides a steady and consistent stream of electricity, which serves to power your homes and businesses. In addition to generating power in a reliable manner, Trimble County Station also boasts its own 114-acre wildlife preserve, which includes both wetlands and forest areas. This nature preserve is home to a variety of wildlife, including American bald eagles, peregrine falcons, fox, deer, wild turkeys and many other species of birds and mammals.

Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve has been instrumental in preserving the peregrine falcon population, which was considered an endangered species as recently as the 1970s. As a participating power generation station in Kentucky's peregrine falcon nesting program, Trimble County Station's wildlife preserve contains a nesting box where falcons can breed each year. 2016 was successful for the Station as a male falcon, Favre, and his female falcon companion once again nested at Trimble County, producing three peregrine falcon chicks. In 2016, the entire Kentucky peregrine falcon nesting program produced a total of 38 chicks throughout a variety of participating locations.

Trimble County Station and IMPA are proud to be a part of this resurgence in the peregrine falcon population and are also proud of the efforts made to maintain our country's natural resources. Going forward, IMPA will continue to remain vigilant in providing low cost, reliable electricity in an environmentally responsible manner. ●



One of IMPA's generating stations, Trimble County Station, is home to a 114-acre wildlife preserve (pictured above). Trimble County Station (pictured below) provides a steady stream of electricity, which helps to power IMPA's 61 member communities.



# Cooking Corner

**We need more recipes!**

Send your favorites to:  
MPN Recipes  
11610 N. College Ave.  
Carmel, IN 46032  
or  
[newsletter@impa.com](mailto:newsletter@impa.com)

**You'll win a prize!**

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|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Advance         | Chalmers       | Flora             | Knightstown  | Pendleton     | Straughn     |
| Anderson        | Coatesville    | Frankfort         | Ladoga       | Peru          | Tell City    |
| Argos           | Columbia City  | Frankton          | Lawrenceburg | Pittsboro     | Thorntown    |
| Bainbridge      | Covington      | Gas City          | Lebanon      | Rensselaer    | Tipton       |
| Bargersville    | Crawfordsville | Greendale         | Lewisville   | Richmond      | Troy         |
| Blanchester, OH | Darlington     | Greenfield        | Linton       | Rising Sun    | Veedersburg  |
| Bremen          | Dublin         | Huntingburg       | Middletown   | Rockville     | Walkerton    |
| Brooklyn        | Dunreith       | Jamestown         | Montezuma    | Scottsburg    | Washington   |
| Brookston       | Edinburgh      | Jasper            | New Ross     | South Whitley | Waynetown    |
| Centerville     | Etna Green     | Kingsford Heights | Paoli        | Spiceland     | Williamsport |
|                 |                |                   |              |               | Winamac      |

## Potato Soup

Recipe submitted by Penny Cox of Montezuma, Indiana.

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| -2 tbsp. olive oil       | -2 tbsp. parsley           |
| -1/2 cup chopped onion   | - 3/4 tsp. salt            |
| -1/2 cup chopped carrots | -1/8 tsp. pepper           |
| -1 cup sliced celery     | -1 tbsp. chopped pimento   |
| -3 cups cubed potatoes   | -4 cup milk (1/2 reserved) |
| -1/4 cup flour           | -1 can chicken broth       |

Heat olive oil in a 3-quart saucepan over medium-high heat and saute onion until tender, about five minutes. Add carrots, celery, potatoes, parsley, chicken broth, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer until vegetables are tender, about 15 minutes. Reduce heat; add pimento and 3 1/2 cups milk. Heat soup until milk is scalded only - do not boil. Blend flour with 1/2 cup of milk and add to soup, stirring constantly. Cook until bubbly and slightly thickened.

## Easy Corn Casserole

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| - 1 8.5 oz. package cornbread mix              | - 1 15-oz. can corn (drained) |
| - 1 cup sour cream                             | - 2 eggs, beaten              |
| - 1 stick unsalted butter, melted              | - 1/8 tsp. pepper             |
| -1 15-oz. can creamed style corn (not drained) | - 1/4 tsp. salt               |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a 2 1/2-quart baking dish. In a bowl, mix together sour cream, corn, creamed corn, melted butter and eggs. Add cornbread mix, salt and pepper and stir. Pour into greased baking dish and bake for 45-60 minutes until sides are golden and the middle doesn't jiggle when you shake it.

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IMPA Commissioner: Dr. Steven Waltz

## How to Stay Safe around Downed Power Lines

**R**ockville Municipal Utilities, your hometown electric utility, urges you to exercise caution as winter ice storms can sometimes spell trouble for power lines. Follow these steps to ensure the safety of yourself and others:

- If you see a downed power line, move away both from it and anything touching it. The ground around power lines – up to 35 feet – may be energized.
- Assume that all downed power lines are live.
- The proper way to move away from the power line is to shuffle with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This will minimize the potential for a strong electric shock.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. Call 911 for help. Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it. ●