

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Scottsburg Electric
Utility



IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY

Volume 25, Issue 1 | Spring 2020



The Indiana Municipal Power Agency, a not-for-profit wholesale power provider, is establishing a solar park in Scottsburg at no cost to the city.

Celebrate Lineworkers
with IMPA
Page 2

Recognizing
Scottsburg's Linemen
Page 4

Protect Yourself
from Utility Scams
Page 7

Solar Power Comes to Scottsburg

Scottsburg is proud to be the host of the Indiana Municipal Power Agency's (IMPA) newest solar park along I-65 in the southwest region of the city. IMPA is a not-for-profit, wholesale power provider that supplies 61 towns and cities in Indiana and Ohio with electricity. As one of the founding member communities of IMPA, Scottsburg has partnered with the Agency since 1983 to support high quality electric service to the city. Since IMPA strives to provide a low-cost, reliable, and environmentally responsible power supply, Scottsburg has seen some of the lowest electric rates in the state. In a recent rate comparison, Scottsburg residents with an average usage of 1000 kilowatt-hours spent nearly \$30 less on their electric bill than an average customer supplied by Indiana investor-owned utilities for the same amount of power. The relationship between Scottsburg and IMPA has benefitted residents and businesses in this manner for over 35 years.

-continued on page 5

Celebrate Lineworkers on April 18th with IMPA

Your municipal utility's lineworkers, the men and women who maintain and repair electric distribution lines, are subject to several hazards every day, and yet their work is essential for your community's power needs. These utility professionals put themselves in harm's way each day to keep the lights on in your community's homes, schools, churches, and businesses, at times subjecting themselves to volatile weather conditions, dangerous heights, and live electrical currents.



The invaluable work that linemen and women commit themselves to often goes underappreciated, which is why the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is excited to celebrate and promote National Linemen Appreciation Day. Each April 18th, utilities across the United States make an effort to honor the hard work and dedication that lineworkers show to their communities every day of the year. Be sure to follow IMPA's social media pages to celebrate National Linemen Appreciation Day with us and thank your local lineworker for the hard work that they do each day!

Safety Around Downed Power Lines

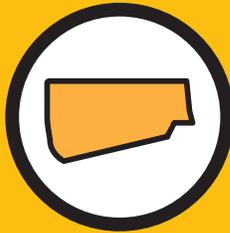
Winter ice storms and the stormy spring season can sometimes spell trouble for power lines. Your municipal electric utility wants to ensure that you exercise caution if you happen to be near any downed power lines this year. Follow these steps to stay safe if you see a downed power line:

- Move away from the line and anything that is in contact with the line, as the ground around power lines may be energized up to a 35 foot radius.
- Assume that all downed power lines are energized and dangerous.
- Shuffle with small steps away from the power line, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times to minimize the potential of a strong electrical shock.
- If you see someone who is in contact with the downed line, do not touch this person. Call 911 for help.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with one.

What keeps electrical workers safe?

An array of special gear and equipment keeps crew members safe while working on electrical equipment and lines.

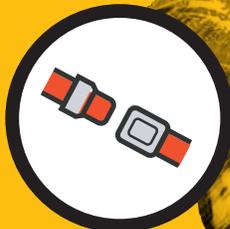
Rubber sleeves: Worn over clothes to protect workers from accidental contact with live lines or other equipment.



Clothing: Arc rated clothing such as jeans and shirts are made from flame resistant materials and avoid using metal components (buttons, zippers).



Safety Strap/Harness: Either connected to the inside of a bucket truck or attached around the pole to prevent falls.



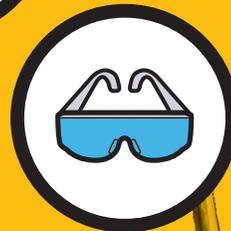
Rope/Handline: Includes a pulley and steel clips to assist with lifting and lowering materials and acts as a lifeline in the event of an emergency.



Boots: Reinforced steel or ceramic toe, with serrated heels and reinforced sole for support in climbing and working on poles.



Hard hat: Insulated and rigid to protect workers from contact with electrical hazards or falling objects. Includes slots for adding in ear protection or face shields, when necessary.



Glasses: Keep glare and objects/small debris from workers' eyes.



Gloves: Workers wear two layers of gloves. Insulated rubber gloves protect from electric shocks and burns, and an outer pair of leather gloves help keep the rubber gloves from getting punctured or torn.



Hot stick: Insulated fiberglass tool used when working with live lines and equipment.



#PublicPower

Recognizing Scottsburg's Linemen

Scottsburg's electric utility has provided a high level of electric reliability to residents and businesses in the community for over 110 years. The city's crew of dedicated linemen play a key role in those high reliability rates, as they work every day to maintain Scottsburg's excellent electric infrastructure. Though everyone recognizes electricity as a crucial service for day to day life, many don't consider the difficult and sometimes hazardous work done by those who maintain our access to power. The job of a lineman is often labor intensive, unpredictable, and incessant.

"We've faced numerous challenges through the years," said Jim Binkley, Scottsburg's Electric Superintendent and veteran lineman. "When I first took the position of Superintendent, we had to confront dangerous, 80 mph winds that damaged a lot of our power lines. Hurricane Ike in 2008 also caused difficult problems, knocking out our transmission and causing the city to go completely dark. However, we were proud to be one of the first communities to have power back on after that event. Through a lineman's career, they will see countless obstacles to maintaining power, but oftentimes they will do the best work under these taxing conditions."

Some of Scottsburg's stellar linemen were honored last year by earning state and national awards. Jim Binkley himself was inducted into the International Lineman Hall of Fame in 2019, organized by the International Lineman's Museum. The American Public Power Association (APPA) intended to hold an awards banquet to honor the inductees at their annual Lineworkers Rodeo this April in Bonner Springs, Kansas. Unfortunately, amid evolving concerns regarding COVID-19 and travel restrictions, APPA cancelled this year's event. Now, plans to honor Binkley and the other five inductees are being made for the International Lineman's Rodeo in October.

"It was interesting being inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019 because my son, Wyatt Binkley, also won an award for his work as a lineman last year," said Binkley, referring to his son earning an Apprentice of the Year award from the Indiana Municipal Electric

-continued on page 8



Solar Power Comes to Scottsburg

-continued from page 1

The most recent collaborative project between IMPA and Scottsburg has been the construction of a solar park, which began in July of 2019. Construction and maintenance of this solar generation facility is completely funded by IMPA and the Agency's investor partners with no cost to the city. IMPA has committed to a goal of establishing at least one solar park in each one of the 61 communities that the Agency serves, and Scottsburg's solar park will bring IMPA one step closer to attaining that goal. The solar park will be rated at 7.1 megawatts (MW), capable of producing enough energy to power over 1,000 homes. The park will utilize a single axis tracking system, allowing the panels to move throughout the day and follow the path of the sun. All of the energy generated by Scottsburg's solar park will stay within the community, providing local renewable energy and diversifying the city's power resources. A diverse power portfolio helps keep stable electric rates and a reliable power supply, benefitting everyone in the community. The solar park will also result in IMPA contributing to the city's tax base through the facility's annual property taxes. The property taxes that IMPA pays will positively impact the city for years to come. Construction on Scottsburg's solar park wrapped up in early spring and commissioning of the facility took place at the end of April and the first week of May.

Prior to Scottsburg, IMPA has completed 25 solar parks in 19 cities and towns, making up 73 MW of the Agency's power supply portfolio. Scottsburg and IMPA are both honored to be leaders in solar development and construction in Indiana. •

Tidbits & Trivia

The **Indiana Municipal Power Agency** (IMPA) is a not-for-profit organization that provides an economic, reliable, and environmentally responsible power supply to its members.

IMPA provides this wholesale power to 61 communities in Indiana and Ohio. IMPA member utilities purchase their power through IMPA and deliver that power to the residents and companies within your community.

Question: How many member communities were a part of IMPA at the Agency's origination in 1983?

Find out at impa.com/about-impa

Generation Resources

noun.

The facilities that produce electricity for distribution and delivery to homes and businesses. Generation resources include coal, nuclear, and natural gas power plants, as well as renewables like solar parks and wind turbines.

Example: *IMPA's generation resources include a mixture of coal, natural gas, renewable, and purchased power.*





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
Director of Marketing Communications
niki@impa.com

Correspondent:
Whitney Hicks
Communications Specialist
whitneyh@impa.com

Send submissions and comments to:
11610 N. College Ave.
Carmel, IN 46032 or
newsletter@impa.com.

Cooking Corner

Kim's Chocolate Chip Cookies

Recipe submitted by Patsy Conolty of Washington, Indiana.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup butter flavored Crisco
- 2 1/2 cups quick oats
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 12 oz bag of chocolate chips

Combine eggs and sugar and beat until fluffy. Add the Crisco and vanilla and blend until well-mixed. Put quick oats into a blender and blend into a flour. Add blended oats to mixture and add salt, baking soda, baking powder, and flour, and mix well. Mix in chocolate chips. Bake at 350 degrees on a greased sheet for 9 minutes. Let stand for 10 minutes before eating.

Old-Fashioned, Baked Mac & Cheese

Recipe submitted by Debbie Johnson of Richmond, Indiana

- 2 1/2 cups uncooked macaroni
- 1 3/4 cups Velveta cheese, cubed
- 3 tbsps butter
- 4 cups milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp pepper

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Melt butter in a 13" by 9" baking dish. Pour the uncooked macaroni into the baking dish and stir until coated. Add salt, pepper, cheese, and milk to dish. Bake uncovered for 1 1/4 hours to 1 1/2 hours. Do not stir while baking. When finished, the macaroni will be lightly browned on top. Let stand 10 minutes after baking.



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

Protect Yourself from Utility Scams

Cyber threats, scams, and frauds are an ever-growing threat to all industries, and the utility industry is no exception. Several scams impersonating local utilities and requesting payments or personal information have been reported in Indiana, so knowing how to avoid and elude scammers and cybercriminals is an increasingly necessary skill. Here are some important tips and facts to protect yourself, your family, and your information from utility scammers.

Telephone Scams

If someone calls threatening to cut off your power, hang up. Never pay over the phone in response to a call, especially when you're threatened with a service disconnection. Scammers know how to spoof caller ID, so do not trust a number even if it shows the name of your municipal utility. Your utility will never demand payment over the phone, so never give personal or financial information to an unsolicited caller.

Fraudulent Emails

Delete all suspicious emails that demand or require immediate action to verify personal information. Scammers often use the technique of phishing, sending fraudulent emails impersonating a trusted source, to incite individuals to give out personal or financial information. Through these emails, scammers try to rouse a sense of urgency in the victim who will generally be asked to provide sensitive data. If you receive a suspicious email, do not follow instructions given by the sender or click on any provided links.

Suspicious Third-Party Payments

Online utility bill pay is a convenience to many residents and businesses. Unfortunately, scammers are aware that more and more individuals are utilizing these web payment portals and are seeking to take advantage. Some cybercriminals are directing customers to third party payment websites to steal money and financial information from victims. If your utility offers an online payment option, be sure that the website you are using is directly affiliated with the utility. To be safe, contact your municipal utility and talk to them about the appropriate online payment website.

The most common security threats are committed by phone, by email, and by suspicious websites. If you feel that a scammer has contacted you, immediately stop your communication with them and contact your municipal utility to report the issue.

*information from the American Public Power Association

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

The Municipal Power News is published by
the Indiana Municipal Power Agency and the
Scottsburg Electric Utility.

IMPA Commissioner: Mayor Terry Amick

Recognizing Scottsburg's Linemen

-continued from page 4

Association. "We're both proud to serve in Scottsburg and grateful to be recognized for our efforts."

April 18th was National Linemen Appreciation Day, a holiday commemorating the hard work of electric lineworkers. Though this year's Linemen Appreciation Day has come and gone, it's never too late to thank the linemen that serve in your community every day of the year. •