

MUNICIPAL POWER NEWS

Williamsport Electric
Light & Power
 IMPA
INDIANA MUNICIPAL POWER AGENCY
Volume 22, Issue 3



Andy Strickler, lineworker for Williamsport Electric Light & Power, works to load a new utility pole, which he will then install within the community.

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Williamsport Electric Light & Power Continues to Update Electric System

Brad House and Andy Strickler, the two lineworkers who are employed by Williamsport Electric Light & Power, are continuously working on projects to update the town's electric system. Both men have worked for the utility since it was re-instituted in 2012, and since then, both House and Strickler have worked to ensure that the town's electric system is functioning properly and provides a reliable source of power for all residents and businesses in Williamsport.

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Electric System

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Among the many ongoing maintenance and reliability projects the utility is tackling is the completion of overhead maintenance projects. According to House, these types of projects should be done frequently to ensure for excellent reliability. He and Strickler have completed many of these overhead projects, which typically consist of replacing utility poles, transformers and power lines, making sure that the new construction is built properly and meets the latest safety codes. House estimates that he and Strickler have replaced 60 to 70 transformers and utility poles since 2012, which has greatly increased electric reliability and safety for the Town of Williamsport.

In addition, the utility plans to hire outside contractors to test all three-phase meters as well as the durability of utility poles throughout town. It's important to test the meters to ensure that they are working properly and are providing an accurate read back to the utility. It is also important to test the utility poles in order to identify their quality and condition. This test should identify poles that are rotting or showing signs of deterioration so that House and Strickler can plan to replace them in the near future.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Williamsport Electric Light & Power's lineworkers, the Town of Williamsport has and will continue to have access to safe and reliable electricity for years to come.●



Williamsport Electric Light & Power is made up of two staff members: Brad House (right), Line Superintendent and Andy Strickler (left), Lineworker.

Space Heater Safety

Electric 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.

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Space Heater Safety

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- Space heaters should sit on flat and level surfaces. Never place space heaters on rugs, carpet, cabinets or tables, as this could easily start a fire.
- Always plug a space heater directly into a wall outlet, not into an extension cord or power strip.
- Purchase a space heater that has a tip-over safety switch. This will automatically turn the heater off if it falls over, which can help prevent a fire.

While electric space heaters provide a great benefit during the cold winter months, they can also spark tragedy if proper safety precautions are not taken. Follow these tips to help keep you and your family safe during the winter season.●

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.

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Williamsport Electric Light & Power Lineworkers Benefit from Trainings

In 2016, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), Williamsport's wholesale power provider, implemented a new education and training program entitled Second Wednesdays. Free to all IMPA member communities, this training program aimed to meet the needs of all utility personnel, including lineworkers, substation workers, meter personnel, management staff and customer service personnel. Brad House and Andy Strickler, lineworkers with Williamsport Electric Light & Power, attended several of these workshops in order to increase their skillset and job knowledge.

"I found these workshops to be helpful and a good reminder to always put safety first," stated Brad House, Line Superintendent. "In this line of work, you can never have enough training and education. Everything that we learned will benefit the town, as we will be able to put this training into action."

IMPA is passionate about providing learning opportunities for its member communities, especially education that encourages safety. Looking forward to 2017, IMPA plans to continue offering these workshops, which benefit all IMPA communities, including Williamsport..