Municipal Power News

IMPA

Brooklyn Utilities

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Brooklyn Keeps Electricity Reliable

Since Brooklyn's utility is a public power utility—meaning it is a not-for-profit entity that is owned and operated by the town—Brooklyn officials prioritize the safe and effective delivery of electricity to all residents and business owners. By completing regular maintenance like tree trimming and equipment replacement, town leaders consistently strive to ensure that Brooklyn's power system runs smoothly.

However, no matter how much preventive care is performed on electric infrastructure, power outages can still happen, whether caused by heavy storms or unanticipated equipment failures. Even when the lights go out, Brooklyn's utility is ready to respond and restore electricity as quickly as possible.

Oftentimes, the town gets assistance from its wholesale public power provider, the Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA), to maintain infrastructure or bring power back on during an outage. IMPA's operations subsidiary, IMPA Service Corp, has a professional crew of lineworkers who provide restoration services to members like Brooklyn when needed. During a significant outage this summer, IMPA

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Learn About the Electric Grid

As summer temperatures rise, electricity usage can soar as consumers attempt to stave off the heat. With increased usage comes increased load on the nation's transmission grid, which is tasked with delivering power from generation facilities to the communities where power is needed. But what exactly is the transmission grid, and how does it play into summer reliability? We've sorted through some commonly asked questions to help everyone feel more comfortable this summer, even as the heat makes its way through the Midwest.

What is the electric grid?

The electric grid is the nationwide system that delivers electricity from where it's made to where it is used. It includes power plants that generate electricity, the transmission lines that carry electricity across long distances, and local distribution lines that carry electricity to utility customers. The grid operates 24/7 to ensure that electricity is always flowing where it's needed.



Who monitors the electric grid?

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission oversees the transmission of electricity across the United States' expansive electric grid. This Commission established Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) in 1999, whose responsibility is to further regulate smaller portions of the grid to ensure reliability and efficiency of power supply. Today, there are ten RTOs that manage the grid of North America.

Who ensures the reliable delivery of electricity to my community?

The Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA) is the not-for-profit, wholesale power supplier to your community, and 60 other communities across the Midwest. IMPA is responsible for generating the electricity used by your community, which it does through its diverse power supply portfolio that includes coal-fired generation, gas, nuclear, wind, and solar resources. IMPA then works with the RTOs that manage Midwestern territories to deliver electricity to your community's utility for distribution to local customers.



Transmission lines carry power along the grid across long distances.

Which RTOs manage the territory I live in?

IMPA's member communities are under two RTO territories. Most of Indiana is covered by the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), while all of Ohio and an eastern portion of Indiana are covered by the PJM Interconnection. IMPA works with both MISO and PJM to ensure energy needs are met in each of its 61 member communities.

How does this all play into summer reliability?

During the summer, electric demand peaks as customers use air conditioning to keep their homes and businesses comfortable, on top of all the other uses of electricity that occur throughout the year. This leads to higher consumption during the summer than the spring and fall. MISO and PJM manage the flow of electricity across their territories, creating a balance between the supply of electricity coming from generation facilities and the demand of electricity coming from consumers. They work closely with generators to monitor and ensure generation availability, and they also administer the wholesale electricity market so that generating entities and buyers can buy and sell electricity as needed. They also work with other RTOs and utilities in the transmission of electricity, making sure power goes where it is needed while minimizing congestion on the lines to ensure reliability. IMPA works year round to plan for peak seasons so that the estimated demand for any given time of year is covered by its resources. All of these efforts, combined with your local utility's work to maintain and upgrade its local electric infrastructure, bring you safe, reliable, and efficient electricity, even when demand goes up in the summer.

So, when you turn on your lights or air conditioning this season, remember that it's the teamwork across multiple organizations and workers that supply your energy! •

Reader Feedback

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's one upgrade you'd like to make to your home to make it more energy efficient?



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!

Topic 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!



Brooklyn Keeps Electricity Reliable

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Service Corp crews traveled to Brooklyn to complete equipment repairs and bring back power to the community.

"We had a pretty good outage this June after a storm with high winds," said Mitch Moore, Brooklyn Town Council Vice President and IMPA Commissioner. "A storm had knocked trees down on a lot of people's houses, so it took a lot of time and effort to get the entire town back online. Luckily, IMPA Service Corp crews were there to assist from the beginning. They're always quick to respond. One of their crew members only lives a few minutes away, and he'll often come out to help even if he's not on call. We appreciate them for everything they help us do."



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Town and utility officials are also working to improve the local electric system to lower the likelihood of outages in the first place. One current consideration is implementing Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) throughout the town. AMI systems alert utility officials immediately when there are power interruptions, and the software pinpoints the exact location of such issues. With useful tools like this at hand, utility workers could swiftly respond to interruptions before they become full fledged outages.

Additionally, the town recently worked with Comcast to achieve infrastructure improvements. This year, Comcast launched a project to improve internet service to thousands of Hoosiers, including those in Morgan County. The

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What's the Word?

Investigating Power Terminology

Ampere

The ampere, often shortened to "amp," is the basic unit of electric current. It measures the amount of electric charge passing through a point in a circuit per second, which can also be described as the rate of flow of electricity. A typical home has between 100 and 200 amps of electric service to support its electric needs.

The ampere was named after André-Marie Ampère, a French physicist and mathematician who lived between 1775 and 1836. His extensive work contributed to our understanding of electromagnetism and electrodynamics. His name is also one of 72 names of Frenchmen inscribed on the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

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

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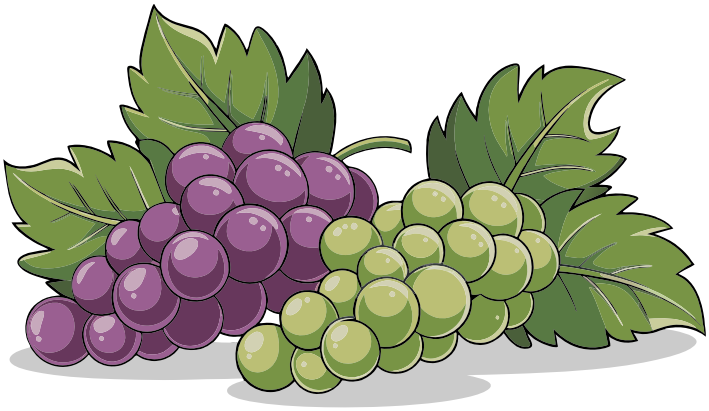
Cooking Corner

Gorgeous Grape Salad

Recipe submitted by Sharon of Tipton, Indiana

- 8 oz sour cream
- 8 oz cream cheese
- 8 tbsp sugar
- 1 lb green grapes
- 1 lb red grapes
- 1/2 lb brown sugar
- 12 oz pecans or walnuts

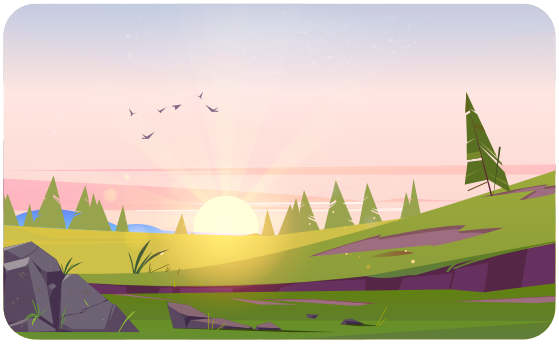
Blend together the sour cream, cream cheese, and sugar. Fold the grapes into the mixture and gently stir until they are well coated. Mix together the brown sugar and pecans or walnuts. Sprinkle the sugared nuts over the grape mixture. Refrigerate until serving. Enjoy!



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Jasper
Kingsford Heights
Knightstown
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Lawrenceburg
Lebanon
Lewisville
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What is the first thing you do each day that requires electricity?



In the last edition of the *Municipal Power News*, we asked you "what is the first thing you do each day that requires electricity?" Here are some of your responses!

Clarence of Dunreith, Indiana pointed out that electricity helps provide many of the comforts that we take for granted:

> **"The first thing I do in the morning is turn on the light, then go to the kitchen and get a glass of water and take my medicine. Without electricity, I would have no pump to get my water. Without electricity, I would have no light to see. Without electricity, we would have no furnace to keep us warm and no air conditioning in the summer to keep us cool."**

Clarence's observations astutely point out that even a simple task such as getting a glass of water can require electric service to accomplish.

Tina in Peru wrote in about how electricity helps her prepare for the rest of the day:

> **"The first thing we do in the morning is turn on the television to see the morning news, and specifically, the weather. We own three small businesses: a farm, a campground, and a tackle wholesale business. Every one of those businesses are weather dependent, so it is essential for our business decisions each day to know the weather."**

Many also said that the first thing they do is turn on their coffee pot. Others mentioned that they immediately check the time, whether with an alarm clock or their phone.

Sarah in Richmond, Indiana said that electricity allows her to make her mornings brighter with music:

> **"I put music on first thing in the morning. It gets me moving and boosts my mood, helping me to start my day with a positive attitude that I can share with others. Without it, my mornings would be quiet, a little less vibrant."**

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IMPA Commissioner: Mitch Moore

Brooklyn Keeps Electricity Reliable

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multi-phase project to bring Comcast's service to town required infrastructure upgrades including utility pole and line replacements, with Comcast agreeing to pay for and complete the upgrades itself. As a result, the company has paid nearly $1,000,000 in system upgrades in Brooklyn. IMPA Service Corp assisted in creating agreements with Comcast for this project to ensure Brooklyn's system is safeguarded and the town receives compensation for Comcast equipment being attached to town infrastructure.

To learn more about how public power utilities work together, visit IMPA's website at www.impa.com! •

