



## FROM INDIANOLA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES



#### IMU will be closed December 25th and 26th and January 1st.

Go online to make payments or drop off in the outside drop box.



Smartphones are a staple of modern life, but they also have a significant environmental impact. When we upgrade to a new phone, our old devices often end up in landfills, where they can take hundreds of years to decompose.

## There are many ways to reduce the environmental impact of your old phone. Here are a few tips:

**Reduce:** Don't buy a new phone unless you need one. If your current phone is still working well, there's no need to upgrade.

**Reuse:** If you're no longer using your old phone, see if you can reuse it. You can give it to a friend or family member, donate it to a charity, or use it as a dedicated home control device or music player.

**Recycle:** If your old phone is unusable or broken beyond repair, make sure it's recycled properly. Recycling companies can extract valuable metals and plastics from your phone and reuse them in new products. Check out Call2Recycle for a drop-off location near you. **www.call2recycle.org/locator** 

#### Here are some specific ideas for reusing your old phone:

Remote control: Use your old phone as a remote control for your TV, smart home devices, or other electronics.

**Music Player:** Load your old phone with music and use it as a dedicated music player.

**Digital Book Reader:** Download digital books and magazines to your old phone and use it as a dedicated e-reader.

**Home security camera:** Use your old phone as a home security camera. There are many apps available that can turn your old phone into a security camera.

**Kids' phone:** Give your old phone to your kids and pre-load it with just the apps you want them to have access to.

No matter what you choose to do with your old phone, make sure you erase any personal data before passing it on. You can do this by going into "Settings" and looking for the option to "Factory Reset" or "Erase all Content and Settings."

By following these tips, you can help reduce the environmental impact of your old phone and make a difference for the planet.

### We can **HELP**.

IMU HAS PAYMENT PLANS TO FIT YOUR BUDGET

If you have not paid your IMU bill for the past 3 or more months, you may qualify for a payment plan to avoid disconnection. We can spread the utility balance over the next 12 months, starting with your next invoice. Only electric, water, sewer, storm water and recycling charges can be put on a pay plan. Fiber charges are not eligible and must be paid in full before the payment plan can be activated. The pay plans are a contract, and by signing it, you are agreeing to pay on time each month in full, or the contract may be voided.



#### **Need Additional Help With Bills?**

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally-funded program designed to assist low income families meet the cost of home heating.

www.impactcap.org/utility-assistance

Please note that if you have received a promise to pay for utilities from an outside source, such as IMPACT, you must still call to make your payments.

# Power your holiday for less Jingle!



Get a smart thermostat to learn your habits and adjust the temperature accordingly.

Use timers for your holiday lights. Set them to come on when it gets dark and go off around bedtime.

Add insulation in the attic. Make sure you have the recommended R-value for your area.

O5 Check the furnace filter. Change or check your furnace filter monthly, especially during the winter months.

Give appliances a vacation. Before you leave on a trip, turn off and unplug everything you can.

Switch to LEDs. They last ten times longer than ordinary bulbs and use significantly less energy.

Get caulking. Use it to stop air from seeping through tiny gaps around your home.

Seal up gaps. For larger gaps in window frames and around baseboards, have a can of foam sealant on hand.

Stop drafts. An easy, inexpensive way to stop drafts and air leaks from areas you can't caulk is to stick some weatherstripping foam tape where the seal meets.

Insulate your pipes. Standard foam pipe insulation is a good solution, but for extra energy savings, consider fiberglass foil-backed insulation.

Stop sneaky leaks. Install foam gaskets behind outlets and light switches to stop potential air leaks.

Insulate your garage door. A garage door insulation kit, complete with precut fiberglass insulation blankets, is a simple way to stop energy waste.

Use window insulation kits. If replacing your windows with more energy-efficient ones isn't an option this winter, consider an inexpensive window insulation kit.





# Employee Feature

Justin Brand
Water Superintendent

Years of Service: 12

What exactly do you do: My job consist of overseeing the day-to-day operations of the water treatment facility to make sure the water IMU supplies exceeds state and federal quality standards. I also supervise the water distribution system and schedule routine maintenance to maintain a quality infrastructure to minimize disruptions to the consumers.

What is your favorite part of your job: The best part of my job is working with a great group of certified operators that take pride in their work. We all take great pride in our utility to ensure safe, clean, high-quality water is available to all customers.

Tell us a little about yourself: I am a long-time resident of Indianola; I graduated in 2007 from Indianola High School and attended DMACC. I have worked at the IMU water department since February of 2014, but was promoted to water superintendent, early in 2023. My wife and I have 3 daughters; that keep us on the move, non-stop. During the summer months our family enjoys spending time at our lake property in Missouri where you can find us boating all weekend or at the beach swimming. During the winter I officiate high school wrestling which keeps my schedule very busy, but as an avid wrestler in high school it is my passion to share the sport with the next generation.

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#### CONTACT IMU

210 West 2nd Ave. Indianola, IA 50125 (515) 961-9444 Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### IMU RESOURCES

Online bill pay: my.imufiber.com/ebill/login Report outage: indianola.com/outages

**IMU board meetings:** youtube.com/@indianolamunicipalutilities

Work for IMU: indianola.com/careers