

Our Purpose: Building Better Energy

Our core purpose is, and always will be, to positively impact people, power, and the planet with solar energy.

Our Values

20 Below Zero: No matter the circumstances or conditions, we make sure the job gets done right.

January weather in Minnesota is no joke. On a day where the wind chill fell to -20 degrees, Construction Manager James Wagoner received word that one of our rooftop installations was in need of emergency maintenance. Despite this work being well outside his normal duties, James was at the job site within minutes and successfully fixed the issue under brutal conditions. Today, “20 below zero” represents the extra drive to succeed that is necessary amid challenging circumstances.

Sleep in the Rafters: Our dedication to customer service knows no bounds.

After nearly 30 years in business, we have dealt with every variety of client service request, some more unique than others. This particular request involved a customer complaining about noises coming from the solar array on their roof. In order to put the homeowner’s mind at ease, an IPS team member packed up his sleeping bag and spent a night in the homeowner’s attic to see (or hear) exactly what was going on. One quiet, if uncomfortable, night later and the homeowner was convinced that all was fine. Now, “sleep in the rafters” is representative of a client-focused effort that goes above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Swim Like a Loon: Much like a loon swimming gracefully across the lake, our feet paddle tirelessly underwater to ensure things run smoothly on the surface.

Running a one-woman department wasn’t easy, not that you’d ever be able to tell from watching Kim Bloom. She ran the accounting department for a multimillion-dollar company while doubling as the HR manager. It’s not natural for someone being pulled in so many directions at once to remain calm and collected, while also getting everything done! At IPS, swimming like a loon is symbolic of the tireless work ethic and composure needed to get things done, staying sane in a work environment that can be chaotic.



***Always Say Thank You:* No deed is too small to warrant a simple “thank you.”**

James Wagoner has a penchant for saying “thank you” no matter how small the favor, *and often when he’s doing you a favor!* This positivity and kindness brightens peoples’ day on a consistent basis. We use James as an example of why no deed is too small to deserve a genuine “thank you.”

***Make a Mudslide Shine:* Sometimes things happen outside of our control. Instead of making excuses, let’s work to find a solution.**

In 2016, a 500-year rain event caused mudslides at our Red Wing Community Solar Garden that spilled into the yards of several nearby homeowners. A combination of honesty, quick thinking, and hard work from our project management team, led by Eric Hanson, resolved the issue and placated angry neighbors & City officials. The City of Red Wing was actually *happier* with us after the incident, because we took responsibility for the issue and made it right. Today, “make a mudslide shine” represents the need to avoid excuses and work toward solving problems.

***Beyond the Balance Sheet:* Our impact on clients, the community, and the climate extends beyond the balance sheet.**

There are many examples of IPS providing value for all:

- Our work with the Red Lake Nation and our Shiloh Community Solar project in North Minneapolis are both focused on giving underserved communities access to renewable energy. The Red Lake project will offset 100% of the tribe’s energy usage and was specially financed to allow the Tribe to own the system themselves. Our Shiloh project was community focused from start to finish. The install crew consisted of local residents, and access to the solar garden was first offered to congregation members, neighborhood residents and smaller businesses in the area.
- We embraced the opportunity to educate the next generation of energy leaders and created the Sunrise Program. This program is dedicated to developing innovative and engaging educational content about solar energy, and includes classroom presentations, fully developed STEM curricula and educator workshops.
- On the heels of being named the greenest contractor in the nation by *Solar Power World*, we’ve partnered with *American Forests* to plant one tree for every kilowatt of solar we install in 2020 and beyond.

These examples and more showcase a dedication to making the world a better place.

