

Department News ~

Upcoming Survey - SE Quadrant of City ~

The City of Wayne has been awarded a Comprehensive Investment & Stabilization Study Grant for the Southeast quadrant of the City. Surveys will be delivered, starting some-

time next week. Once surveys are returned to the City, we will hold two or three town hall meetings in the area to review the results. The results of the survey will allow us to ob-

tain additional grant funds for eligible identified needs, such as a tornado shelter.



WISE WORDS

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."

~ Milton Berle

Smelling Sewer Gas? ~



If areas of your home ever smell like sewer, it may be your house's way of telling you its sewer vent system isn't working properly.

"Toxic gases and fumes can present a serious hazard when sewer vents become plugged with ice. The smell of sewer gas in the home is often the first indication of a problem. That pungent odor is offensive and usually quite noticeable.

If sinks, bathtubs and other plumbing fixtures don't drain normally, it may be another indication that this has occurred.

Snow and ice buildup on the top

of the sewer vent pipe can hinder the easy exit of gas. Vents for the sewer system are located on the roof and often one can see this ice cap on the vent pipe from the ground.

The clearing of a frozen sewer vent on the roof calls for extreme care. If this has happened at your home, you should find a safe way to remove the obstruction from the vent pipe, keeping in mind the danger of working on a slippery roof.

One remedy for sewer vents that repeatedly freeze up is to insulate the vent pipe where it passes through the attic. Some fiberglass insulation wrapped around the pipe will probably do the job.

Another year around cause of sewer gas odor in the home can be that basement floor drains have dried up and allow sewer gas to enter the home. These drains need to be checked and refilled with water. Pour a quart or two of water in these drains every week or so to keep them filled. Adding a tablespoon or two of vegetable oil or mineral oil to the water in the drain will slow down the evaporation of the water in the drain trap

~Garry Poutre

Supt. of Public Works & Utilities

Make the Switch to LED's ~

Want to save money on your energy bill and get a rebate? Switch to LED bulbs. These bulbs last up to 35 times longer than incandescent lights and often four or more times as long as fluorescents. LEDs do not contain mercury, generate almost no heat (which

can help reduce air conditioning costs), and light up instantly. A longer lasting light bulb means fewer changes, more savings, and less waste. Find out how you can get a rebate of \$5 per qualified LED lamps through N P P D a t

[energy/for-your-home/](http://www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam/).

For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam.



FACEBOOK & TWITTER

The City of Wayne has launched a Facebook page and Twitter account to help keep you informed of what's happening in your City. Follow us on Facebook at:

[facebook.com/CityofWayneNE](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWayneNE)

and on Twitter at

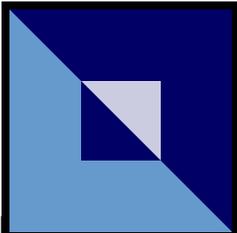
twitter.com/CityofWayne.



REMEMBER RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS!!

The water you are still using for the next 15 days will be included in what your sewer average will be on 3/1/14!! Please monitor your usage wisely!!





City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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EnergyWise Tip ~



How about a different idea this Valentine's season?

Rather than running to the floral shop or greeting card section, why not impress your Valentine with a gift that says you care while reducing the energy used at home?

Have you considered buying a programmable thermostat and properly setting it for winter and summer use? This could reduce heating and cooling costs by more than 10 percent. Today's models are simple enough for most homeowners to install themselves and offer up to hour-by-hour programming for the home's temperature. One rule of thumb is that each degree in Fahrenheit the thermostat is set back over an eight-hour period translates to a 1 percent savings in heating costs.

Though it is certainly not traditional for this time of year, look at buying a new high-efficiency refrigerator/freezer. When compared to units made 30 years ago, today's units only use a third as much energy. That can translate to saving well over \$100 per year in energy costs.

Have you looked at the new, high-efficiency clothes washers lately? About 90 percent of the energy used to wash clothes is used heating the water. So if you purchase a unit that makes the most out of cold water washing, you can realize some significant savings. Remember, the simplest way to ensure your buying quality, energy efficient appliances is to purchase those with the ENER-GYSTAR® on their label.

Rather than considering the purchase of a throw blanket, blanket the attic in insulation! Since attics are fairly easy to get into, they are often the most cost-effective insulation project you can do in your home. In Nebraska, you should have at least enough insulation to provide a R38 value.

Energy efficient Valentine's giving does not have to come with a larger price tag. There are lots of things you can give or do that will not break the bank.

It may sound crazy, but how about a new pleated furnace filter? A clean filter helps your heating and cooling system maintain its efficiency. Note that pleated filters

have more surface area than the cheaper fiber-glass filters. While you may not need to replace your filter monthly, you should check it on a regular basis to ensure it is clean enough to function properly. Dirty filters reduce airflow, which causes your system to run longer and consume more energy.

Here is a bright idea! An LED light bulb will usually last more than 20 years! Over the course of its lifetime, you will save more than \$100 when compared to using standard light bulbs. Most LED light bulbs are fully dimmable and many screw into your existing light sockets.

How about a simple idea; a tube of caulk? Most tubes cost less than the average Valentine's card! More importantly, the money saved in heating and cooling costs usually pays for the caulk in less than one year. Some types of caulk have rated lifetimes of over 25 years, which means energy savings for years to come!

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS
February 4th
February 18th

WAYNE COMMUNITY ACTIVITY CENTER HOURS

Monday-Thursday
5:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday
5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday
1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.