

Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~

There is something for everyone at the library this month. The spring Expand Your Horizons program centers around the theme "Food." Our series will start on April 1st with guest host Jessica Olson. This program will center on cooking for one or two people. There is quite a bit of information out there about cooking for a crowd or large family, but smaller households need ideas to make food purchases, preparation and presentation a pleasant experience.

Healthy cooking will be in the spotlight for the April 8th program. We are happy to welcome Sandy Preston an educator from the Dixon County Extension Office. Her program, entitled, "Want to eat healthy, but find it is not easy?" will share some ideas how to adopt a healthy diet and lifestyle.

We are happy to be working with Wayne State College and the Multi-cultural Office in presenting our third program on ethnic foods, scheduled for April 15. Some students from a group on campus called, "Latinos Uniting" will share samples of food and stories of their culture.

Unlike previous series, we are requiring participants to sign up ahead of time. Programs with fewer than 10 registrants may not be held. Call the library at 375-3135 to save your spot.

April sees two big celebrations at the library. National Volunteer Week is April 6-12. The library will honor all of our many volunteers on Tuesday, April 8. Stop by anytime throughout the day to enjoy some refreshments and learn about the many ways to volunteer at the library.

Stop in during National Library Week (April 13-19) for an impromptu tour of the library or to enter our drawings. This would also be a great time to take advantage of "Book a Librarian," and set up a time to visit with a library staff member about using Microsoft Office products, setting up email or using the Internet, or how to use the library's downloadable book service for your Kindle or Nook. Refreshments will be served throughout the day on Tuesday, April 15 and the library will host the weekly Chamber Coffee on Friday, April 18.

The Friends of the Library book sale runs the weekend of April 11-12, with the Members-Only Preview Thursday evening, April 10, at 5 PM (contact the library for information on how to become a Friend). The sale continues Friday from 11 AM to 7 PM and Saturday from 9 AM to 2 PM for the popular \$5 bag sale.

We haven't forgotten our younger patrons. Saturday, April 5 is the annual Library Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 AM. After hours of prep, the Easter Egg Hunt usually is over in about 10 minutes so we encourage you to be on time. Later in the month, we encourage you to start thinking about summer by signing up for the 2014 Summer Reading Program "Fizz, Boom, Read" at the Community Activity Center.

We are closed Easter Sunday (April 20). To learn more about any of our April events (or for plans down the road) call the library at 402-375-3135.



Green Notes - Get Green This Spring ~

The **Wayne Green Team** is busy with several exciting green initiatives this year, focusing our efforts on making it easy to minimize waste and increase sustainable behavior throughout our community and in our daily lives. We're taking a break on our usual Green Expo so we can make progress in other areas. Here's what we've been busy doing this year:



Turn trash into treasure.

We've been partnering with Wayne State College to coordinate a Green Move Out from the dorms, salvaging usable furniture and goods from landfills by redirecting them to local consignment and thrift stores or other reusable places.

Improve access to recycling.

We've been applying for grants to buy recycling bins for our communi-

ty's outdoor parks and Main Street business area, and encouraging schools and businesses to place recycling bins next to all trash bins.

Increase awareness on waste reduction.

We're working to become more visible at public events to offer information on waste reduction and recycling. This includes outreach to youth by teaching waste reduction lesson plans and participating at the Wayne Elementary Boosters Carnival offering earth-friendly activities while handing out useful Green Living tips. Look for us at more public events, and if you'd like us to join an event, just ask!

Last year alone, we diverted the following hazardous wastes from our landfills by responsibly disposing of them at our electronics recycling and hazardous household waste collec-

tions:

- 12,000 pounds of unwanted electronics
- 480 pounds of pesticides
- 2,380 pounds of paint
- 138 fluorescent bulbs

Let's be proud of our community's work to protect the environment. And let's keep up our efforts to be GREEN! Join us on the Green Path to the Good Life by attending our monthly meetings, liking us on Facebook, or taking the simple step of changing your daily habits to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Visit www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam or contact us at greenteam@cityofwayne.org. Stay tuned for more info on an electronics recycling event this May, and be sure to celebrate Earth Day on April 22!

WISE WORDS

"Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine."

~ Robert C. Gallagher

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

and on Twitter at

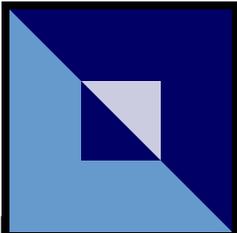
twitter.com/CityofWayne.



DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- ◆ Baths use less water than a typical shower. Soaking in a partially filled tub will use less water than a short shower.
- ◆ Less than 1% of the water treated by public water systems is used for drinking and cooking.





City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 7 —Issue 4
April 2014

EnergyWise Tip ~ What's a Watt?



If you're like most people, when you get your electric bill, the first thing you make note of is how much you owe the power company. Next, you most likely will consider whether the total cost is higher or lower than the previous month's without considering the "watts" that you're being charged for. Unfortunately, cost is not a good way to tell if you used more or less electricity than you normally would.

To start, let's consider what a watt is. By definition, a watt is a measure of power. The more watts, the more power. That's why a 1,500 watt microwave oven cooks about twice as fast as a 750 watt microwave.

But when you examine your electric bill in greater detail, you will notice you are being billed for kilowatt-hours. Kilowatt-hours, abbreviated kWh, are a measure of energy and time. For example, if you run a 100-watt light bulb for one hour, you've used 100 watt-hours, or 0.1 kilowatt-hours, since a kWh is 1,000 watt-hours. In other words, 0.1 kWh is the amount of energy you need to run a light bulb for an hour.

It is very common for people to underestimate the power needs of an appliance or light, as well as to not realize how many hours a month some appliances and lights operate.

Now consider: While all watts are the same, not all watt-hours are created equal! During summer months, demand for electricity increases. Large-scale storage of electricity is generally cost prohibitive, so utilities must operate more generation to meet that higher demand. This additional generation costs more to operate per kWh produced. Consequently, utility companies must charge a higher price per kWh to cover their costs during the summer.

What energy-using item operates and for how long will naturally change in your home, too! Most homes in Nebraska have central heating systems. As the weather gets colder, units run longer and the system blowers consume more electricity. If your home also uses electric resistance or a heat pump to keep the "inside" comfortable, significant increases in billed kWhs are normal.

As daylight hours change throughout the year, more or less lighting is used in the home. Depending on the number, type of lights, and hours operated, sizeable changes in energy consumption can occur.

Over 97 percent of Nebraskan homes have some form of air conditioning. As temperatures rise, air conditioning typically operates for more hours each month and causes the number of electric kWhs consumed to increase. By the time the electric bill arrives in September, which includes electricity used in August, cooler weather is often upon us and we tend to misjudge how much the air-conditioning ran.

When you open your next monthly electric statement, consider some of these points after looking at the kWhs billed and not just how much you owe. Reviewing your energy use patterns and understanding where the energy goes just may change how you use electricity.



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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 1st
April 15th

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.