

Department News ~

Playground Safety ~



It's that time of year again. Summer is in full swing, and the city parks and playgrounds are busy with kids of all ages swinging, sliding and playing in the sand.

In May, City employees will conduct inspections of parks and equipment and remove, replace and repair equipment to keep the parks fun and safe.

The most effective way to keep your child safe while playing in the parks is adult supervision. Parents can help prevent playground accidents by taking some

precautions, ensuring that there is adult supervision at the playground, and making sure that any equipment that their child plays on is appropriate to his or her age and maturity level.

Adult supervision can help prevent injuries by making sure kids properly use any playground equipment and don't engage in unsafe behavior around it. If an injury does occur, an adult can assist the child and administer any needed first aid right away.

Kids should always have adult supervision when they're at the play-

ground. Young children (and sometimes older children) can't always gauge distances properly and aren't capable of foreseeing dangerous situations by themselves. Older children often love to test their limits on the playground, so it's important for an adult to be there to keep them in check.

Have a fun and safe Summer!!



WISE WORDS

“Some people dream of success...while others wake up and work hard at it.”

~Author Unknown

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

- ◆ The amount of water in the body of an average adult is 37 litres.
- ◆ Human brains are 75% water.
- ◆ Human bones are 25% water.
- ◆ Human blood is 83% water.
- ◆ 75% of a chicken is water; and
- ◆ 95% of a tomato is water.

New City Sirens ~



The new sirens are in different locations, they are mounted a little higher, and they sound different. They rotate the sound in 360 degrees, making the loudness vary, which makes a single tone tornado siren a little more noticeable in a true emergency. They are radio controlled with battery power backup so they still work in case the power lines into Wayne go down before a tor-

nado gets here.

Fire alarm sirens: The fire siren will still be the same high/low tone and operate in daytime hours.

Tornado siren: This will still be a single high tone siren for 3 minutes. The police dispatchers set this warning off only when a tornado is sighted within 5 miles of Wayne or if the weather service radar contacts dispatch and reports a radar sighting that close. We **never** use an all clear siren.

If the tornado siren is sounded a second time, that means a tornado is still on the way and may hit us.

Tornado Shelter: If you don't have a basement, plan ahead with a neighbor who has a basement or travel to the city auditorium at 3rd and Pearl Street which will be unlocked when the tornado sirens go off. Have a plan for shelter and don't wait till the sirens sound to decide.

Green Notes ~ Get a Green Lawn the Green Way!!



Spring means back to lawn care and according to the Turf Management experts at UNL earlier is better than later. Help those grass blades that are trying to push the dead tops up with new growth by mowing off that brown winter kill and letting the green see the light. The

plants are working hard to produce and store nutrients and moisture. Do not mow short however in your effort to help. Setting the mower at least 3" high is best for the lawn. Mowing frequently and taking off less each time will promote a healthier lawn – don't remove more than 1/3 of the grass height in

each mowing. And leave those clippings on the lawn to help shade the soil, retaining moisture and keeping it cooler, as well as returning the nutrients in the cut grass back to the plants. For more info you can search turf.unl.edu. Visit www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam or contact us at greenteam@cityofwayne.org.

WAYNE CITY POOL HOURS

(May 26th— Aug 10th)

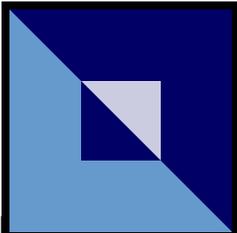
Monday—

Sunday

1:00 pm—8:30 pm

Closed 5-6 pm, except on week-ends





City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 7 —Issue 5
May 2014

Energy-Wise Tip - Energy Myths



Electric utility companies hear quite a few well meaning, but often incorrect, energy-related “beliefs” which reveal a basic misunderstanding regarding energy use and savings. While some may seem logical, the majority yield little, if any, energy savings and often end up costing customers additional time, effort and money. Here is a quick list of the more common erroneous energy “untruisms”:

Turning the thermostat down/up beyond your intended final setting warms/cooling your home faster. Heating and cooling (HVAC) systems operate with a maximum capacity. When the thermostat is cranked up or down, they operate at that capacity until the thermostat’s setpoint is reached. If the thermostat is turned beyond the reasonable or comfortable temperature, energy waste will likely occur. In fact, many heat pump systems will revert to their more-expensive auxiliary heat if the warmer setpoint temperature is not achieved in a given amount of time.

Turning down/up thermostat farther makes unit work harder. Again, HVAC systems operate with a limited capacity. The further the new setpoint is from the actual temperature, rather than working “harder,” the system simply will operate longer and use more energy.

Turning lights “off” when you leave the room and back “on” when returning takes more

energy than just leaving them on. The small surge of power created when fluorescent lights are turned on is vastly smaller than the energy used by leaving them on when they are not needed. Leaving an incandescent light on actually uses more energy than turning it off and on as needed. However, If you are using compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), they should be left on if light will be needed again within five minutes. Turning CFLs on and off frequently can shorten the life of the bulb.

Closing off rooms saves lots of energy. If your home has a central HVAC system, most rooms that would be closed off will still have space conditioning running into them if the ductwork to that room is not sealed off. Even without central HVAC, walls and doorways outside the closed off room will now become colder or warmer, which will offset some of the energy savings you are trying to achieve.

Doubling insulation will cut heating or cooling costs in half. Though adding insulation to your home is often the most economical improvement you could make, there is a point beyond which you can spend more on materials than you will recover in lower energy bills. The tipping point varies depending on where you live.

New windows will quickly pay for themselves with energy savings. New windows can save energy, but they are quite

expensive in comparison to the energy costs they save. Recouping the investment through lower bills could take up to 40 years. Less expensive options are caulking, window film or screen, and drapes, blinds and awnings.

Washing dishes by hand uses less energy than running a dishwasher. Compared to hand washing, an ENERGY STAR® dishwasher can save \$430 in water and energy costs over its life. To maximize dishwasher savings, scrape plates instead of rinsing them and turn off the heat-dry feature. Ceiling fans keep rooms cooler when you are not there. Fans do not chill air. They merely circulate it producing greater comfort for occupants. That takes energy. If no one is there, what is the point? Turn your ceiling fans off when you leave a room.

Buying an efficient air conditioner or furnace will automatically reduce your utility bill. This is true to some extent, but you will not realize all the possible savings if the equipment is not sized or installed properly. Studies have shown that typical air conditioner and duct systems are improperly installed and waste up to one third energy used for space conditioning.

For more ideas on how you can make your home EnergyWiseSM, contact the City of Wayne.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 6th
May 20th

NEW SUMMER HOURS AT CAC
(June 1st—Aug 31st)

Mon-Thu—5:30 am—9 pm
Fri—5:30 am—7 pm
Sat—8 am-6 pm
Sun—Closed

