



# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

Volume 8 —Issue 3  
March

## Energy-Wise Tip

### KITCHEN VENTILATION:



If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. But if you need to cook dinner or bake a cake, this advice is probably not practical. How about getting the heat out of the kitchen instead?

In addition to creating smoke, grease and odors, cooking produces significant amounts of waste heat and water vapor. While this may not be as big of a concern in winter months, during the cooling season, your air-conditioning system will run considerably longer to remove this excess heat and humidity. The Cold Climate Housing Information Center at the University of Minnesota estimates cooking a dinner for a family of four releases nearly 20 ounces of water into the air. This amount more than doubles if a gas range is used. Proper kitchen ventilation will significantly reduce of air-conditioning energy needed to perform the same task.

Here's what you need to know to choose a ventilation system that fits your cooktop and your space.

#### **Ducted vs. Unducted**

Cooking fans without ducts leading outside the home are not true ventilation systems. Rather, they are referred to as recirculating range hoods, and have a limited ability to reduce grease, smoke, heat and odors. These hoods attach to the wall above the cooktop and pull air through a filter, then recirculate it back into the room. Often, this recirculated air includes odors and gases along with humidity and heat.

Ducted systems take emissions through ductwork to be vented outside. Venting outside takes much less energy to remove heat and water vapor than relying on your air-conditioning system to do the job.

#### **Ups and Downs**

Updraft systems, are the favorite among kitchen-design professionals, as they install directly over the cooking surface. A hood helps gather vapors that rise naturally during the cooking process and then the exhaust fan moves them outside through a duct. Downdraft designs pull air across the cooking surface and down through a duct that leads outside the home. Unlike hoods or canopies, downdraft systems are often integrated into the surface of the cooking appliance. Since these units rise no more than 10 inches above the cooking surface, they are too short to capture vapors rising from a tall pot. Most designers prefer to reserve downdraft systems for kitchens with cathedral ceilings, where the length of the ductwork would be too great to work effectively, or in kitchen island configurations. A larger fan is required in a downdraft system because there is no hood to help capture cooking byproducts.

#### **Depth and Width**

A 30-inch range requires a hood or downdraft vent that is at least 30 inches wide. If space permits, wider is better. For a 30-inch range, a 36-inch hood is recommended. A hood's depth, which is the distance it projects from the wall, is also important. "You want to make sure it hangs over at least the middle of the front burners.

#### **Ventilation Efficiency**

Generally, a range hood with an exhaust fan vented to the outside (updraft) is considered the most effective system. Placement of the fan above the cooking area takes advantage of the natural rise of heated air. Note that small ducting and/or several elbows in the ducting decreases the ventilation system's efficiency.

#### **Ventilation Rate**

When a cooking appliance is against a wall, ventilation is more effective. Ventilation systems for ranges and cook tops in open islands or peninsulas require larger fans. The Home Ventilating Institute recommends hoods being placed along a wall have a minimum exhaust rate of 40 cubic feet of air per minute (CFM) per lineal foot of cooktop. Ideally, 100 CFM per lineal foot should be used. Thus, for a typical 30-inch range 100 to 250 CFM is needed. Hoods above an island or peninsula (no wall) should have a minimum of 50 CFM per lineal foot while 150 CFM is recommended. This calculates to 125 to 375 CFM of a 30-inch cooktop.

Duct work can alter efficiency of a ventilation system. The longer the duct run, the more turns or angles, and the smaller the duct, the less efficient the system. A larger fan may be needed to draw enough air from the cooking area.

Remember, the most efficient thing you can do with kitchen ventilation is to turn it off after it is no longer needed. If you do not, it will continue to draw conditioned air out of your kitchen.

Your local utility and Nebraska Public Power District want to help you make the most from the energy they provide. That includes helping you comfortably create culinary creations while using your kitchen in the most efficient manner possible. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, along with possible energy efficiency financial incentives, contact your local utility or visit [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com).

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### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

March 3rd  
March 17th

### New Location for Tree Dump Site

**There is a new location for the tree dump site in Wayne. The location is now just north of the old Pacific Coast factory site along Industrial Road on the eastern side of Wayne. You can no longer take materials to the old site near the rugby complex.**



## Department News ~

### Free Payment Option now Available Online ~



We hear it in social media, on the phones and in email: You don't want to pay a fee to pay your bill. We want to make sure your customer experience is top notch, so we are now offering online payments with no fee. Just log on to the City of

Wayne website and go to the "Online Bill Pay" option located on the left hand side of the screen.

### Library News ~



Don't pay any attention to the snow and cold weather outside. The Wayne Public Library is deep into planning for our spring programs. Storytimes continue, with Mother Goose on the Loose for babies and toddlers meets every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs, finger plays, and all sorts of other fun activities create special times and memories for you and your little one. Winter Storytime runs through March 28th. Saturday, March 21st, is our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The library book club for adults continues to meet the last Tuesday of every month. The March title is Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline, and we have multiple copies available for checkout.



The spring Expand your Horizon series will run Tuesday evenings, March 10 – 17 – 24. Our topic this year is Severe Weather Preparedness. The topic is a timely one, as the week of March 23-28, 2015, has been designated as Severe Weather Awareness Week in Nebraska and Iowa. The library has been working with Nic Kemnitz, Wayne County Emergency Manager to develop a three week series that will help participants to understand the interaction of emer-

gency personnel; to know what happens during the recovery process and, finally, how individuals and families can prepare.

"Who Does What" will be the focus of the March 10<sup>th</sup> program. Nic Kemnitz, along with the Chief of Police, Wayne Fire Chief and personnel from Providence Medical Center, and City Officials will be on hand to discuss how the first responders take action and manage a disaster area.

On March 17<sup>th</sup>, Sam Vacha, Disaster Specialist from the Red Cross, and representatives from the Nebraska Public Health Department, Salvation Army and Wayne Ministerial Association will focus on the recovery mission after an emergency situation hits an area.

The March 24<sup>th</sup>, program will help individuals and families create a plan of action in case of an emergency event or natural disaster. Presenters will talk about having a "Ready Bag" of supplies that may be needed, making a list of prescription medications and having a First Aid Kit. We will have handouts for participants showing how to make a plan, and lists of materials to put in your bag. Library staff will be available to help those attending make copies of insurance cards, driver's licenses, or other important papers that may get destroyed in a disaster. The first ten copies for each attendee will be free. There will also be a

drawing for five back packs that can be used to create a "ready bag."

The presentations will be informational as well as proving an opportunity for questions from the audience. This program series is FREE and open to the public. For information call Rita McLean, Adult Services Librarian, 402-375-3135.

Looking ahead to April the activities continue. The Friends of the Library annual book sale will run April 9-11. Donations of gently used books are being accepted at the library now. All proceeds from the sale go towards special projects and programs that benefit library users. National Library Week and National Volunteer Week share the week of April 12-18, and our Volunteer Open House will be held on Tuesday, April 14, from 10 am to 6 pm. Please stop by for a snack and some information on the many ways in which people have volunteered at the library. Finally, look for more information on the next WPL Junk in Your Trunk event, scheduled to coincide with the first of the community-wide garage sales on April 18.

### WISE WORDS

"One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency."

~Arnold Glasow

### LIFEGUARDS WANTED!

The City will be taking applications for full and part-time lifeguards. Please contact the Community Activity Center for more information at 402-375-4803



### Green Notes ~ Say Hello to Blossoms, Butterflies, Birds & Bees

We are all looking forward to spring, and there are many signs that it is approaching. One is the numerous seed and plant catalogs that many of us get in the mail. This year as you look through these catalogs and start to plan how to make your home look more colorful for the summer months, consider an important part of the system that makes those flowers and our fruits, vegetables, and many other crops possible – the pollinators.

"Pollinators" refers not only to bees, but also to butterflies, some birds (like hummingbirds), and many insects.

Catalogs will often tell you which plants are most attractive to these busy little creatures. UNL Extension ([www.extension.unl.edu/](http://www.extension.unl.edu/)) also has information on-line to help in selection. The Xerces Society ([www.xerces.org/](http://www.xerces.org/)) is another excellent source of pollinator information. If you want to be really eco-

conscious you can start including native plants in your landscape. They not only support the pollinators but are better adapted to our climate, requiring less water and less work once established.

Welcome summer and our helpful pollinators with beautiful blossoms this year. For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit [www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam](http://www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam).

### HOURS AT CAC

(September 1st— May 31st)

Mon-Thu—5:30 am—10 pm

Fri—5:30 am—9 pm

Sat—8 am-8 pm

Sun—1 pm - 8 pm

