



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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May

Energy-Wise Tip

Low-Cost, No-Cost Summer Efficiency

As we roll into summer, many people wonder when heat waves will begin and bring the season's first air-conditioning bill. While a newer, high-efficiency air conditioner or heat pump usually reduces cooling costs, they also require a sizable investment. So what can a homeowner do this summer to save energy without breaking the piggy bank? Read on!

Windows – When it cools off at night, turn off your cooling system and open your windows. When you wake in the morning, shut windows and blinds to keep heat out. If needed, install window coverings that reduce heat gain through your windows.

Thermostat – Set your thermostat as high as comfortably possible in the summer. The U.S. Department of Energy recommends no lower than 78°F (26°C) when you are at home and need cooling. When you are away, allow your home to become warmer with a higher thermostat setting. A programmable thermostat can make this process easy. Remember not to set your thermostat to a “colder-than-normal” setting when you return. A lower setting will not cool your home any faster and could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

Fans – If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow

you to raise the thermostat setting about 4°F with no reduction in comfort. Remember to turn off ceiling fans when you leave the room. Fans cool people, not rooms, by creating a wind chill effect. When bathing or showering, use the bathroom fan to remove heat and humidity from your home. Bathroom and kitchen fans should be vented to the outside and not just to the attic.

Cooling System Efficiency – Schedule regular maintenance for your cooling equipment, at least once every three years. Avoid placing lamps or TV sets near your thermostat, which can cause the air conditioner to run longer than necessary. Also, ensure that furniture and other objects are not blocking airflow through your registers.

Cooking – On hot days, avoid using the oven; cook on the stove, use a microwave oven, or grill outside. Minimize kitchen exhaust fan usage to reduce the amount of conditioned air removed from inside.

Lighting – Install efficient lighting, such as light-emitting diode (LED) lamps, that runs cooler. Take advantage of daylight instead of artificial lighting, but avoid direct sunlight.

Cleaning – Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes. If the option is available, consider air drying both dishes

and clothing. Take short showers instead of baths. Water heating can account for 10 percent or more of the energy consumed in your home. Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (120°F). You'll not only save energy, you'll avoid scalding your hands.

Sealing – Keep hot air from leaking into your home by sealing cracks and openings. Add or repair caulk and weather stripping to seal out warm air. Replace old, cracked weather stripping, door sweeps, and thresholds as well.

In General – Minimize activities that generate a lot of heat, such as running a computer, burning open flames, running a dishwasher, and using hot devices such as curling irons or hair dryers. This is especially important during the hotter times of the day. Even stereos and televisions will add some heat to your home.

We want to help you make the most of your energy dollar and reduce cooling costs without costing you a fortune. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, along with possible energy efficiency financial incentives, contact Gene Hansen, Electric Production Superintendent at (402) 375-2866.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 5th
May 19th

Backflow Inspection Notice

The Water Department must insure that all water softeners are property air-gapped with a physical air-gap. Water softeners, by State law, cannot be plumbed directly into the sewer pipe. Water Department Personnel will begin contacting Wayne customers to inspect their water softeners for proper air-gaps. If you have questions regarding this, please contact Jeff Brady, Water/Wastewater Foreman, at (402) 375-5250.



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 ~

Beginning May 4th, the Library will be open from 10 am to 8 pm in the evening Monday through Thursday. Our Friday – Saturday – Sunday hours remain the same until the end of May, when we start closing on Sundays through the summer.

Dash for the Stash continues through May 15th. Four posters are located around the Library that provide helpful information about personal investing. Each poster gives you the chance to enter a drawing. Four correct entries will put you in the running for a \$1000 contribution to begin or increase your IRA. Check at the Library for more information.

The Library and Senior Center are joining together to sponsor a luncheon program about Buffalo Bill, funded by Humanities Nebraska on June 1st. Come for the meal at noon and stay for the program. Reservations can be made through the Senior Center at [402-375-1460](tel:402-375-1460).

 Our second Junk in the Trunk for 2015 will be May 30th as part of the city-wide garage sale days. Each seller

at the Library will be responsible for their car, junk & treasures, transactions, and clean up! You just drive in, open your trunk, sell your stuff, and drive away! Set-up will begin at 8 am and all the cars must be in place by 8:45 am. The lot will then be blocked off, permitting only foot traffic around the cars. Selection of parking sites is first come, first serve. All participating cars need to be in our parking lot, saving street-side parking for Library patrons. Space is limited, so call the Library at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135) or email rmclean@cityofwayne.org to reserve your spot or for more information.

The WPL Book Club is reading The Twelfth Victim: The Innocence of Caril Fugate in the Starkweather Murder Rampage. Discussion of this true crime book set in Nebraska will be Tuesday, May 26, at 6:30 pm. The Library has several copies of the book available for checkout.

You've been signing up for summer reading.... The fun begins soon! Summer Reading Kickoff is May 20 at 2 pm at the city auditorium, and features Jeff Quinn, Magician. Jeff Quinn's Hero Show will throw the spotlight on both traditional and non-traditional heroes and will focus on the greatest superpower of all...reading! Or

course, Jeff's show will also feature lots of audience participation, family-friendly humor and safe, fun magic. After the show, Jeff will have some magic books and items available for purchase.

Summer reading sign-up continues during open hours at the Library. Reading logs will be available at the kick-off program and at the Library following the program on May 20. May 30 is the last day to order the super-fantastic program t-shirts. T-shirts must be paid for when you place your order.

Adult summer reading is gearing up for a great summer also. It kicks off June 1 and will follow the same bingo challenge format as we did last year. We will draw for the grand prize of a Kindle HD Fire on August 3 (provided by the Wayne Library Foundation).

To learn more about any of our May events (or for plans down the road) call the Library at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135).

Green Notes ~ Nominate a Zero Hero!

Zero Heroes are everywhere in Wayne, helping the Earth by reducing waste in so many ways. Now you can recognize these heroes, whether an individual or business, by nominating them through an online tool at www.wsc.edu. Already the nominations are rolling in, and you can see who in Wayne is reducing, reusing and recycling their way around the communi-

ty by visiting our Facebook page for pictures.

The Wayne Green Team is also sponsoring the **WSC Green Move Out May 6-8, 2015** for a second year. Volunteers will be doing dumpster duty to encourage students to donate their reusable items for resale and donation in our community to green partners Rustic Treasures

and Micah's Closet. Last year's Green Move Out was a success and we hope more students donate their stuff instead of dump into landfills.

For more information, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook, visit the Wayne Green Team at www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam, or email greenteam@cityofwayne.org.

WISE WORDS

"Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck."

~Dali Lama

Did you know:

That the earth is a closed system, similar to a terrarium, meaning that it rarely loses or gains extra matter. The same water that existed on the earth millions of years ago is still present today!



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

