



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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Energy-Wise Tip—Radiant Barriers

Have you received a postcard in the mail lately with one of the following marketing lines?:

- Did you enjoy paying your utility bills this month?
- Did you know you may be paying up to 40 percent too much every month?
- See what the Utility Companies may not want you to know!
- Free Steak Dinner!
- This technology was developed by NASA and is now being introduced to the general public!
- Lately, a few companies have been using these lines to convince you to consider installing a radiant barrier or radiation control coating. But will these actions provide significant energy savings in your home?

On a sunny summer day, solar energy is absorbed by the roof, heating the roof sheathing and causing the underside of the sheathing and the roof framing to become hot. These surfaces then radiate heat downward toward the home. Radiant barriers reduce that energy flow. Because the amount of heat radiation striking the top of the home's attic insulation is less than it would have been, the insula-

tion surface temperature is lower and the heat flow through the insulation is reduced. By reducing the heat energy reaching the attic floor, radiant barriers also reduce the attic's ambient air temperature.

In the winter, radiant barriers can reduce indoor heat losses through the ceiling, especially during winter nights when the roof surface is coldest. However, radiant barriers also reduce beneficial daytime heat gains due to solar heating of the roof. Depending on your climate, level of attic insulation, and other factors, the net winter effect can be positive or negative.

So what kind of savings can you expect in Nebraska? Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is a multi-program science and technology national laboratory managed for the U.S. Department of Energy. ORNL's calculations in Nebraska's weather zone (Zone 5) shows savings varies from \$0.00 to \$0.03 per square foot. For the typical 1,540 square foot attic in a Nebraska home, the first year's savings would vary from \$0.00 to \$61.60. Considering installation could cost more than \$2,000, it may be more than 30 years for your

energy savings to pay for the improvement.

Even so, if you determine that a radiant barrier is appropriate for your attic, make sure the product you install has an appropriate permeability rating to allow any moisture to "travel" through the barrier into the attic where it can be vented out of the home. In Nebraska, barriers are often laid atop the home's existing attic insulation, with the reflective side up. Although this is the simplest installation method, there are several disadvantages:

Dust will settle on the reflective side of the barrier, decreasing its effectiveness.

- Traffic (if the attic is used for storage) will damage it.
- Moisture can be trapped where it will soak the insulation and potentially lead to mold problems.
- Kitchen and bathroom vents and recessed lights should not be covered with the radiant barrier

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

June 2nd
June 16th

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.

WISE WORDS

"Some of the world's greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible."

~Doug Larson

Library News ~



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 conducted inspections of parks and equipment and are removing, replacing and repairing 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 playground. 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!!



Did you know:

- ◆ Frozen water is 9% lighter than water, which is why ice floats on water.
- ◆ If all the world's water were fit into a gallon jug, the fresh water available for us to use would equal only about one tablespoon.



Green Notes ~ Know your Farmer, Know your Food!



The **Wayne Farmers Market** returns Wednesday, June 10, on the grounds of the Wayne County Courthouse at 510 Pearl Street, offering fresh seasonal produce, artisan breads, baked goods, jams and jellies, live music and much more. The

Wayne Green Team will even have the occasional booth offering green tips, cloth bags and more. Bring your reusable shopping bag to check out the Wayne Farmers Market this summer Wednesdays (new day) 4-7pm and Saturdays 9am-noon, thru October. For more tips

on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit 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

