



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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September

Energy-Wise Tip—R-Value



While you might expect “R-value” to be the level of appreciation a pirate has for buried treasure, with winter coming, you might want to consider your own “R-value”. The “R” refers to the resistance of heat flow and, in particular, is associated with the insulation in your home.

Insulation acts like a blanket on your home. When properly installed, it keeps the heat inside your home during winter, and the cool air inside during the summer. On average, about half of the energy used in Nebraskan homes is used to keep the home warm or cool. Unfortunately, many homes either have insufficient or improperly installed insulation.

According to a 2003 study by the Harvard School of Public Health 2003, if your home is as little as five to 10 years old, you likely have one of the 46 million under-insulated homes in the U.S. The good news is that adding insulation is often one of the easiest and lowest cost options for improving the energy efficiency of your home.

All insulation has an R-value -- the higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness. The R-value will vary depending on the type of insulation, its thickness, and its density. You can increase your R-value in areas by adding insulation, even if there is already insulation in a particular area. Your new R-value is calculated by adding the R-value of the new insulation to the R-value of the existing insulation.

As mentioned, there are many

types of insulation. Insulation batts and blankets are made of fiberglass or mineral wool and are most commonly used in new construction or unconfined areas, like unfinished attics, roofs, and under floors. Batts and blankets often have an R-value of 2.9 to 4.0 per inch of thickness.

Blown-in loose fill insulation is one of the easiest forms to install. Commonly made of cellulose, glass fiber, mineral wool, perlite or vermiculite, it can be blown or spread into areas needing insulation. Equipment for blowing insulation into walls or attics can be rented, or contractors with their own equipment can be hired to do the job. Loose fill insulation usually has an R-value of 2.2 to 3.8 per inch of thickness.

Rigid boards are plastic foams or fibrous materials pressed or extruded into board-like forms. Common materials include polystyrene, urethane or glass fiber. Polystyrene and urethane have superior insulating qualities with R-values of 3.2 to 5.0 per inch of thickness.

Foam insulation, usually urethane, can be injected into wall cavities or sprayed onto roof or floors. Once applied, it expands and sets in about a minute. After it sets, it shrinks slowly for several weeks. Properly applied, shrinkage is less than five percent. Like rigid boards, foam insulation has the advantage of a high R-Value per inch.

The Nebraska Energy Office recommends the following R-

values in the following home areas:

- Attic – R-45 to R-60
- Exterior walls – R-20 to R-30
- Floors over unheated spaces – R-30
- Basement walls and concrete slabs – R-10

Obviously, attics are places where it can really pay to have the right amount of insulation. If your home has six inches or less, and you use primarily electricity to heat it, there is an EnergyWiseSM program to help you if you add an R-value of at least 19 or six inches of blown-in insulation. By participating in the residential EnergyWiseSM attic insulation program, customers are eligible for an incentive of \$.15 per square foot insulated with a maximum incentive amount of \$300 per existing residential dwelling. New construction and/or additions do not qualify.

Your local utility wants to help you make the most of your energy dollar by cutting the cost of heating and cooling your home. For more information on insulation or 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.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

September 1st
September 15th

**CITY OFFICES
WILL BE
CLOSED
MONDAY,
SEPT. 7th IN
OBSERVANCE
OF LABOR
DAY**

REMINDER TO PET OWNERS:

**Remember to
pick up your
dog's waste —
don't leave it in
parks where kids
play or other
private and
public areas!!**



Department News ~

Free Payment Option 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

"Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters."

~Albert Einstein

Library News ~



The Library is offering a "Food for Fines" event beginning September 1st and running through September 19th. \$1 in fines will be forgiven for every non-perishable item brought in to the Library during this time. This is a great way to help out others while clearing your account at the same time. Be sure to check the expiration date on the food items you bring in!!



Days are getting cooler, and with the change in the weather come fall activities at the Library. Fall Saturday programs begin on September 12th at 10:30 a.m. This 45-minute program features stories, crafts and activities geared pre-K and early grade school children. The popular "Mother Goose" program

resumes on Wednesday, September 9th, at 10:30 a.m. This weekly program has rhymes, games, and a variety of other activities suited to infants through toddlers. The Library is collaborating with Northeast Community College to host two classes on Quickbooks. These non-credit workshops will be held October 19th and 26th. Contact Rita at the Library for more information.

The WPL Book Club continues, and will discuss *The Dinner* by Herman Koch on Tuesday, September 29th, at 6:30 p.m. Two couples meet for dinner at a fashionable restaurant in Amsterdam. Behind their polite conversation, terrible things need to be said, and with every forced smile and every new course, the knives are being sharpened. As civility and friendship disintegrate, each couple show just how far they are prepared to go to protect those they love. Multiple copies are available for checkout at the Library.

The final "Junk in the Trunk" for 2015 will be in the Library parking lot from 9-Noon on Saturday, October 3rd. This is a great way to sell a few of those treasures you've been collecting, or to stop by and browse for a new treasure to call your own. You can reserve a spot by calling the Library at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135).

All events are free and open to the public. The Library is located at 410 N. Pearl Street and open hours are 10-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10-6 p.m. Friday, and 10-4 p.m. Saturday. Sunday hours of 2-5 p.m. resume on September 13th. If you would like additional information about any of the Library programs and services, please stop by or contact us at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135).

Did you know:

- ◆ Children in the first six months of life consume seven times as much water per pound as the average American adult.
- ◆ Each day, we lose a little more than a cup of water when we exhale.
- ◆ A swimming pool naturally loses about 1,000 gallons a month to evaporation.



Green Notes ~ Electronics Recycling Event on September 19th



For the 2nd year in a row, the City of Wayne has been awarded a grant from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality to host an electronics recycling collection event on **Saturday, September 19th from 9 a.m. – noon** at the City Hall Parking

Lot. Come responsibly dispose of your e-waste, like TV's, computers and monitors, instead of throwing these items into the landfill where they can become hazardous to our soil and groundwater. This event is open to households only (no businesses). A full list of acceptable items and the fee

schedule will be posted on our website as soon as it's finalized.

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

