



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 9 — Issue 1
January

Energy-Wise Tip

Engine Block Heaters

Nothing can be more aggravating in the winter than jumping into your vehicle and turning the key in the ignition, only to find the engine will not start. And it is bitterly cold outside! Unfortunately, three things have happened under your hood as a result of the bone-chilling weather.

First, your gasoline will not evaporate as quickly when it is cold. Vaporization is necessary for combustion to properly occur. Second, oil becomes much thicker in cold weather. Thicker fluids take more effort to pump. Finally, batteries have problems with the cold, too. Chemical reactions inside a battery produce the electrons needed to power the engine's starter. Since these reactions are occurring more slowly, there are fewer electrons flowing to the starter. Fortunately, Andrew Freeman of Grand Forks, North Dakota came up with a remedy for these problems in the 1940s: the electric engine block heater.

But remember! If you do not pay attention to how you use this nifty device, it could end up costing you each winter more than twice its initial purchase price. You may be tempted to "plug" it in when you get home every day so your vehicle will start easily

the next morning. If you are using a 500-watt heater for 12 hours per day from November through February, you can expect to pay around \$100 for this convenience. Here are a few tips for managing that cost.

Unless it is going to be colder than 10° or 15°F outside, it is usually not necessary to plug in your vehicle. The electronic fuel and ignition systems in today's vehicles automatically adjust to compensate for cold temperatures. At this point, the best way to warm your engine is to drive gently for the first couple of minutes. Do not rev your engine! That is the worst thing you can do, because you are putting a lot of strain on the engine at the very time it is least prepared to handle it. Not to mention, it wastes fuel and releases more emissions due to inefficient combustion.

Similar concern can be expressed for starting your vehicle and allowing it to idle for five to 10 minutes before driving. You may think you are doing your car and yourself a favor by "heating" things up before you go, but that is not necessarily true. The greatest amount of wear and tear on an engine occurs when it is first started. Idling wastes gas and creates more air pollution. Consider using a timer on your heater to reduce unnecessary usage. Research done by the Agri-

cultural Engineering Department of the University of Saskatchewan has shown that operating a block heater for longer than four hours prior to starting a vehicle is a waste of energy. It was found that engine coolant temperature increased by about 36°F during a four-hour period. However, continued use of the heater for an additional one to two hours only achieved an additional 3° to 5°F increase.

You may also want to consider an engine heater with reduced wattage. Finally, electric battery blankets typically draw less power than block heaters and still condition the battery to provide ample electrons that will get the engine started when it is bitter out.

Having peace-of-mind that your car will start on the coldest days should not have to cost you an arm-and-a-leg. By making some EnergyWiseSM choices this winter, you can be assured you will get to your destination and be energy efficient at the same time.

Inside this issue:

<i>Energy-Wise Tip</i>	1
<i>Department News</i>	2
◆ <i>On-Line Bill Pay</i>	
◆ <i>Library</i>	
◆ <i>Green Notes</i>	

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 5th
January 19th

JANUARY CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

The Utility Billing Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, January 21st and 22nd due to software system upgrades. You can still pay your bill via the two drop boxes at City Hall, online or by mail!



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

"A successful person is the one who can lay a foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him."

~David Brinkley

Library News ~

The holidays are over for another year, and the staff at the Wayne Public Library is settling down for a cozy winter. Children's programming begins again after the holiday break on January 6th with Mother Goose Lapsit on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 and Winter Story Time on Saturday mornings at 10:30.

"Tech Tuesdays" throughout January. Call ahead to book time with one of our staff members every Tuesday between 4-8 p.m. We can help with tablets, Nooks, Kindles, etc. If you know how to use your electronic device, stop in any time and learn about Overdrive (downloadable books) and Freegal (downloadable and streaming music).

versions will be bilingual, offering a wide range of games and activities in English, English/Spanish, or Spanish only. Funding for these computers has been provided by the Wayne Library Foundation, Friends of the Wayne Public Library, and state aid from the Nebraska Library Commission.

See you at the Library!



Many of us will have received new electronic gadgets for Christmas, and to help you figure out how to use yours, the Wayne Public Library is hosting

Keep an eye out in early January for brand new computers in the children's room. The 3 stations will be updated versions of the touchscreen educational computers we've had there for the last 5 years. The new

Did you know:

- ◆ By the time a person feels thirsty, his or her body has lost over 1% of its total water amount.
- ◆ The weight a person loses directly after intense physical activity is weight from water, not fat.
- ◆ Water intoxication is most likely to occur during periods of intense athletic performance.



Green Notes ~ A Green Resolution for the New Year



Ready to start your new year off with a green resolution? Begin with a home cleanse by going through your house to see what you no longer need or use. Wayne has many options for you to donate or resell your stuff at our local consignment shops, thrift store, and more. A full list of where to take odds and ends in Wayne is posted on our website at www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam. It includes watch batteries, prescription medicines, eye glasses, books, plastic bags, inkjet printer cartridges, and more.

Plus, it's always **free to recycle** in Wayne at our Transfer Station, located at 110 South Windom St. and open three days a week on Monday and Friday, 9:00am – 1:30pm, and Saturday, 8:00am – noon. The station accepts cardboard, plastics #1-7, and scrap metal, and hosts recycling drop offs for local Boy Scout Troop #174 of aluminum cans in the baler, and of newspapers, magazines, and mixed paper in its parked trailer, raising funds for Boy Scout activities. Batteries, lightbulbs and glass are no longer being recycled. Save your batteries and lightbulbs for a proper Household Hazardous Waste Collection

event, or take them to the Norfolk Transfer Station. Glass is recycled by Waste Connections' curbside pick-up service, and Gill Hauling is currently exploring other options. We will post updates as soon as we have any.

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

