



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 11 —Issue 10

October

ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Over Your Head



If you're not there already, go to the top floor of your home and look up. What do you see? A drywall ceiling? HVAC ducts? Light fixtures? An attic access door? If your home is like most, an unconditioned attic is on the other side of that ceiling. Ask yourself this question: This January, what will the temperature be like up there? Without realizing it, you could be losing more than 30 percent of the heat in your home through your ceiling!

When looking for ways to make improvements, first consider light fixtures, and in particular, recessed "can" lights. Can lights, especially those manufactured before 2004, have plenty of holes and gaps to allow conditioned air from the living space to escape into the attic. Because these fixtures traditionally use hot, incandescent bulbs and protrude up, they should not be covered with insulation without first installing a cover with an airtight barrier. While you may choose to make covers yourself out of sheet metal or lumber, most home improvement stores offer airtight can light covers made of a fire-retardant material that are designed specifically for this purpose. Once the cover is ready for installation, apply spray foam insulation to seal air leakages and secure it in place. Ceiling penetrations for other light fixtures or ceiling fans may also leak air from your conditioned space and should be sealed in a similar manner.

If you saw a register, grille or air diffuser when looking up, you have ductwork running through your attic. Is it insulated? Uninsulated ductwork running through unconditioned spaces can lose as much as 40 percent of a heating or cooling system's energy. Special insulation designed for ductwork with at least an R-6 insulative rating and a vapor barrier is also available at home improvement stores.

If you have air conditioning, properly insulated ducts are necessary for more than energy efficiency. During the summer, cool air passing through metal ducts in warm attics can cause condensation on ductwork, and dripping will occur. This can lead to mold growth and safety issues. Uninsulated ducts are also at risk of becoming rusted and leaking conditioned air.

How about an attic access door or panel? If you have stairs or a ladder mounted above, install a molded insulation cover above the access door. If you have a simple door or panel, you can easily insulate yourself with rigid-foam insulation panels and construction adhesive. Finally, install weather stripping to reduce air leakage around the perimeter of the door or hatch.

Now, for the big one. Consider your attic insulation. Due to temperature, compression, aging and moisture accumulation, some insulations lose their R-value over time. The Department of Energy recommends Nebraska homes have an R38 insulation value or better. Insulation batts and blankets are made of fiberglass or mineral wool and are most commonly used in 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 commonly made of cellulose, glass fiber, mineral wool, perlite or vermiculite. It can be easily blown or spread into areas needing more insulation. Loose-fill insulation usually has an R-value of 2.2 to 3.8 per inch of thickness. If you don't have at least one foot of either of these insulation types, you probably have an energy efficiency improvement opportunity.

Note that reflective insulation or radiant barriers are sometimes

installed in attics to reduce summer heat gain and reduce cooling costs. Barriers consist of a highly-reflective material that redirects radiant heat away from the living space rather than absorbing it. Unfortunately, the same effect occurs in winter when radiant heat is beneficial. Since Nebraska has a heating-dominated versus cooling-dominated climate, the summer-time benefit is often negated by increased energy use in colder months. Some representatives of radiant barrier material claim their product will provide an equivalent of thermal insulation with an R-value of 25 or higher. These claims are not substantiated because these products by themselves do very little to reduce heat conduction like thermal insulation materials.

If your attic has six inches or less of insulation and you use primarily electricity to heat it, there is an EnergyWiseSM program to help if you want to add an R-value of at least 19 or six inches of blown-in insulation. By participating in the Residential Attic Insulation Program, customers are eligible for an incentive of \$0.15 per square foot of insulation 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 home energy use. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, along with possible energy efficiency financial incentives for a variety of improvements, contact your local utility.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

October 2nd
October 16th

NEW CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

Effective November 1, 2018, City Hall office hours will be:

7:30 a.m.
until 4:30 p.m.



Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~



Enjoy a relaxing evening! **Adult Coloring Night** on Tuesday, October 9th, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the library. All supplies are provided, plus a light snack will be available at this FREE

event sponsored by Pac-N-Save. Coloring Nights are open to men and women, 18 and older. Coloring benefits people by lowering stress & anxiety levels, helping a person focus on the present to achieve mindfulness, and giving the brain relief by entering a meditative state. So join us to give it a try!

Board Game Night is Thursday, October 11th beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come and join in to play games and enjoy snacks as a community together!

Monday, October 15th at 6 p.m., the Library will host **Smart Phone 102 -Beyond the Basics**. You've learned to answer your phone, text and email, but you want to know more such as apps that you will use, how to use maps and the importance of your search engines. Wanna learn how to Facebook? What the heck is snapchat or Instagram? We can teach that! You'll need the passwords for your phone and emails, and you will need to have an email connected with your phone. Bring your questions! Chele Meisenbach, instructor.

Join us for an **Adult Craft Night** on Tuesday, October 16th at 6:30 p.m. Registration is required by October 1st. The project is a Ring Pumpkin and is lead by Teresa Tiedtke, owner of the Highway 15 Salvage Co. The cost is \$10.

The Escape Room— Can your team of 4-6 players solve our spooky puzzles and escape with your lives? Be sure to register at the circulation desk for October 18th, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and October 19th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for youth. The **Teen/Adult Escape Room** is on Saturday, October 27th, 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m. and November 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Each session is one hour in length.

Pumpkin Painting Contest with celebrity judges, at the Library!

Bring in your already painted pumpkins to be judged by noon on Monday the 30th! OR Toddlers will get to paint pumpkins at Toddler Time Wednesday, October 24th at 10 a.m. Children and Toddlers can paint at Fall Story Time Saturday, October 27th at 10:30 a.m. Kids, teens and adults can paint evening Tuesday, October 23rd at 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. **Pumpkins will be displayed around the Library, to be judged on Halloween Day, October 31st at Noon.** Our celebrity judges are: Mayor Jill Broderson, Police Chief Marlin Chinn, Fire Chief Phil Monahan, and Chamber of Commerce Director Lucas Virgil.

QuickBooks Basics Class is offered on Thursday October 25th, 5 to 8 p.m. for free! The Agenda: create customer accounts, enter sales and income, write checks and track expenses, generate reports and use other QuickBooks features. Registration required by October 23rd, by calling the Library or emailing hheadley@cityofwayne.org. Instructor: Diann Ballard, REAP. The program is offered by the Center for Rural Affairs in conjunction with The Wayne Public Library, REAP, and SBA.

"Salt to the Sea," is the Book Club selection for the month, and will be discussed at 6:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month, October 30th. Books are available for check-out. In 1945, World War II is drawing to a close in East Prussia and thousands of refugees are on a desperate trek toward freedom,

almost all of them with something to hide. Among them are Joana, Emilia, and Florian, whose paths converge enroute to the ship that promises salvation, the Wilhelm Gustloff. Forced by circumstance to unite, the three find their strength, courage, and trust in each other tested with each step closer toward safety. Just when it seems freedom is within their grasp, tragedy strikes. Not country, nor culture, nor status matter as all ten thousand people aboard must fight for the same thing: survival.

Fall Story Time is weekly on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. Come enjoy stories and play time.

Youth Book Club will meet every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. for about half an hour to discuss a book all are reading, "The Bridge to Terabithia." 5th grade through 8th are welcome.

Toddler Time continues every Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. Welcomes kids and caregivers of all ages with activities geared for children and infants through age 5.

Patrons can access many of our great **online resources** 24-hours a day. Ask at the desk for more information on Libby & Overdrive for eBooks and audiobooks that may be downloaded to your personal device!

WISE WORDS

"If you aren't willing to work for it, don't complain about not having it."

~ Anonymous

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Monday & Friday

9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Tuesday

11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:00 a.m.—Noon

Or by appointment
Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday

Green Notes ~ 18,000 Pounds of Electronics Recycled



Many thanks to our community for making our 6th electronics recycling event on September 15, 2018, a success. We recycled nearly 18,000 pounds of electronics from over 100 households and 5 businesses. We collected 63 tube TVs, 11 tube monitors and 8 microwaves. Overall, the event kept thousands of pounds of electronics out of the landfill and raised \$2,400 to support our Zero Waste programs in Wayne.

We owe special thanks to the many people who helped make this the best run event in our history, including volunteers from the Wayne State College Men's Basketball and

Women's Soccer teams; City employees Earnest Ping and Officer Dominic Consoli; our recycling vendor DataShield; and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality for grant funding.

With partners like these, the community of Wayne will continue to be successful in our efforts to Recycle Right and reach Zero Waste.

For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam.

The Fair Housing Act protects people from discrimination when they are renting, buying, or securing financing for any housing. The prohibitions specifically cover discrimination because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability and the presence of children.

If you believe you may be a victim of housing discrimination, contact HUD 1-800-669-9777 or your local Fair Housing representative:

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YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT. YOUR HOME.

