



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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April 2011

LOOKING AHEAD ~

Wayne Green Expo is April 9th in the city auditorium



Energy is getting complicated. Coal is a target of EPA because of air quality issues. Oil drilling has been stopped in the Gulf and offshore. Future nuclear power is at risk because of the recent Japan plant failures. Wind power is intermittent when the wind stops blowing. Natural gas has the best future if EPA doesn't begin to restrict fracturing of the underground to release the gas. Future hydropower through dams on US rivers is environmentally prohibited.

We have had the luxury of all these in large, cheap quantities in the past.

Do you have a plan for yourself as our old standbys are slowly being lost or becoming extremely expensive? This is a complex, critical topic concerning our future standard of living. Are we relying on the federal government to find the answers?

What can we do for ourselves to prepare for the higher energy costs ahead? How can we insulate ourselves from the poor decisions of others

and the simple market pressures from competing countries?

The Green Expo will have some ideas for long-term sustainability of our resources that can help reduce the impact of the changes that are already on the way. Please join us at the City Auditorium on April 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

~Lowell Johnson
City Administrator

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 5th
April 19th

NEW WINTER AVERAGE FOR SEWER USAGE ~



It's been one year since the residential sewer rates were amended to use the average water usage from November 15th through February 15th as the sewer usage for the next 12 months. This billing structure was designed so that residential customers do not pay sewer charges for water that does not enter the sewer system.

The Billing Department has determined the new average residential sewer usage for the next 12-month period, which is re-

flected on the billing statement that is enclosed with this newsletter. You may or may not see a difference in your usage, depending upon what you used during the period from November 15th through February 15th.

Also, regardless of consumption, each sewer customer pay a flat service charge which is based upon the size of their water meter. This service charge is designed to cover the costs of maintenance and improvements of the sewer system which are present even in the absence of usage at your residence.

If you have a leak that occurs be-

tween November 15th and February 15th, this will affect the winter average that we use for billing for the remainder of the year, and it's important to contact our office immediately. To avoid having an abnormally high winter average, customers who have had a leak may apply to our office for an adjustment to their winter average. Customers must submit proof that a leak occurred and was fixed in a timely manner to qualify for an adjustment.

For commercial sewer customers, charges are based on actual monthly water consumption.



Department News ~

Grass Clippings ~



The Wayne Public Works Department wants to remind all residents that blowing lawn mower clippings into the street is prohibited and is a violation of City Code. These grass clippings and other such debris left on the street will travel to the storm sewer inlet and can block them. The blocking

of the inlets can cause local flooding from storm water accumulation.

Because the water from the storm sewers runs into Logan Creek, the grass clippings can negatively affect the creek with the chemical content in the grass from lawns that have been fertilized and treated with weed

killer.

When mowing, please mow the first few rounds so that the grass blows in towards the lawn and when finished, sweep up the grass that has been thrown into the street.

We thank you for your cooperation during this mowing season.

WISE WORDS

“Cooperation is the thorough conviction that nobody can get there unless everybody gets there.”

~Virginia Burden

April Activities at the Library ~

There is something for everyone at the library this month. The spring “Expand Your Horizons” program features topics centered around the theme “Finding Your Roots”. Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on consecutive Tuesdays, speakers include Steve Gross discussing local history April 6, Kendra Hoffman sharing information on getting started with genealogy research on April 12, and Davi Gradert demonstrating Ancestry Library Edition on April 19. This final session will include hands-on time with Ancestry.com library edition and is limited to the first 12 registrants.



The Library will have a table at two city-wide events in April. Stop by to see us at the Green Expo on Saturday, April 9. We will be accepting books for the annual Friends of the Library book sale, and will have lots of fun ideas about recy-

cling./reusing/reducing, as well as crafts for the kids. The Library will also be at the annual Elder Fest on Thursday, April 21. The Friends of the Library book sale runs the weekend of April 14-16, with the Members-Only Preview Thursday, April 14 (contact the Library for information on how to become a Friend). The sale runs Friday, April 15 from Noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m. Later that month, we encourage you to start thinking about summer by signing up for the 2011 Summer Reading Program “One World, Many Stories” at the Community Activity Center on Friday, April 29, from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, April 30 from 10-noon.

On Sunday, April 17, the Library will host “Book and a Movie,” with a showing of the film based on the powerful novel *The Road*, by Cormac McCarthy. The movie will be

at 2:30 p.m. in the Senior Center. Multiple copies of the book are available for checkout at the Library. The Adult Book club will meet to discuss *The Road* on Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.

April also sees two big celebrations at the Library. Stop in during National Library Week (April 10-16) for an impromptu tour of the Library, enter our drawings, or test your knowledge about famous first lines of books. Everyone is also invited to stop by during National Volunteer Week on Sunday, April 10 between 2:30 – 4 p.m. to help the Library say thank you to the many people who volunteer their time to help with library programming.



The Library is closed Easter Sunday (April 24). To learn more about any of our April events (or for plans down the road), call the Library at 402-375-3135.

DID YOU KNOW...

That a typical clothes iron sucks 1,000 to 1,800 watts of electricity when it's turned on. That's more than your TV and refrigerator combined! Though you may not leave your iron on as long as other appliances, you can iron more efficiently by following these tips:

- Remove clothes from the dryer promptly to prevent wrinkles from forming;
- Pull your clothes off the line or out of the dryer before they are completely dry;
- Do all of your ironing jobs for the day or week in one sitting so you are not wasting power.
- Iron lightweight fabrics first and move to heavier weight fabrics to make the best use of your iron's heat.

•Before showering, hang the clothes you plan to wear in the bathroom to let seam smooth out wrinkles.



City Siren Signals—What they Mean ~



Wayne sirens are operated by the Police Dispatchers. They have three different signals you should know:

◆ Tornado/Storm Warning:

Long steady siren in one tone for three minutes;

◆ Fire: Alternating high/low tone for approximately three minutes; and

◆ Attack//Defense Alert: Waving

tone of short blasts for three minutes.

If you subscribe to Cable TV, turn your television on when sirens sound to hear the message from our Police Dis-