



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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September

ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Summer Peaks



Why does your electric bill seem to shoot up during the summer? Some people question whether their electric meter is registering correctly. Most blame air-conditioning as the culprit. While cooling usually consumes the largest portion of home energy bills during hot months, there is another reason why you must reach deeper into your pocket to pay summer electric bills.

To support high electricity usage on very hot days, your electric utility often requires supplemental electricity from additional generating facilities. For most utilities in the U.S., these peak periods occur weekdays, between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sometimes “peaker” plants, which run on natural gas and usually do not operate 97 to 99 percent of the year, can be switched on quickly to satisfy periods of peak power demand. Other times, less-efficient fuel oil and coal plants are added to the generation mix to meet increased electrical needs.

Estimates show that 10 to 20 percent of the overall annual cost of providing electricity comes from supplying electrical demand during the 100 most-expensive hours of the year. In Nebraska these “peaks” usually occur during the summer; therefore, most Nebraska utilities bill their customers using a summer rate. Some utilities begin their summer rate period as early as May 15 and run as late as October 15. In general, summer rates are often designed 25 to 35 percent higher than winter rates to cover additional peaking power costs.

Is there anything you can do to reduce the cost of your summer electrical use? Absolutely! Consider this: the wholesale purchase

price your utility must pay for the electricity you use is significantly impacted by what time of day you are using it. If you use it most during the peak period, your utility will pay more for additional energy resources needed. But if you can reduce or shift your usage to another time of day, your utility will pay less. That reduces the need for future rate increases to you.

Here are easy ways for you to help your electric utility and reduce your “peak” energy use:

- ◆ Shift as much of your energy use as you can to before noon or after 9 p.m.
- ◆ Your microwave uses about two-thirds less energy than your stove. Better yet, grill outside.
- ◆ Most dishwashers use less water and energy than washing dishes by hand. Use the air-dry setting on your dishwasher to save even more.
- ◆ Fill your refrigerator. Filling your fridge with lots of food and beverages will keep it from warming up quickly when the door is open – causing it to run for a long time after the door is closed. Just remember to leave sufficient room around items so chilled air can properly circulate.
- ◆ Set your air conditioning thermostat to 78°F when you are home and 85°F or off when you are away. Using ceiling or room fans allows you to set the thermostat higher because air movement will make the room feel cooler. When you leave the room, don’t forget to turn the fan off.
- ◆ Do your laundry by using the cold water setting on your washer. Line-dry clothes when-

ever you can.

- ◆ When you need to use the clothes dryer, run full loads, use the moisture-sensing setting, and clean the lint trap after each use.
- ◆ Unplug electronic devices and chargers when they are not in use. Turn computers and printers off at the power strip.
- ◆ Unplug and recycle that spare refrigerator in the garage if you don’t really need it.
- ◆ Replace dirty air conditioner filters. Plugged filters restrict airflow and can cause the system to run longer.
- ◆ Install and use window shading inside to reduce heat gain while the sun is shining.
- ◆ Install patio covers and awnings, and plant trees where appropriate to shade your home.
- ◆ Have a cooling system tune-up completed on your HVAC system to reduce energy needed for air-conditioning.
- ◆ Replace your standard electric hot water heater with a heat pump water heater that provides cooling while heating your water.

Your local utility and Nebraska Public Power District want to help you make the most of your energy dollar this summer while keeping you cool. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, along with possible energy efficiency financial incentives for the cooling system tune-up and heat pump water heater mentioned above, contact your local utility.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

September 4th
September 18th

Cross-Connection Control Survey Form

In the upcoming months, City of Wayne customers will receive a “Cross-Connection Control Survey Form” in the mail that needs to be completed and returned to the City Offices. This form will help prevent the accidental contamination of the City’s drinking water.

The City of Wayne is required to do this not less than once every five years, and will greatly appreciate your cooperation.



City offices will be closed on Monday, September 3rd, in observance of Labor Day!



Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~



Calling all Patrons to refer a friend! September is National Library Card Month!! Refer a friend to get their library card—give the gift of books!

In celebration of **National Banned Book Week** (September 23rd—29th), patrons are encouraged to read books from the banned book list all month and enter into the prize drawing to win one of three different Banned Book Themed prizes.

We will be closed Monday, September 3rd in observance of Labor Day.

Family Board Game Night is Thursday, September 9th, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Join other families to play games and enjoy snacks as a community together!

Enjoy an evening of relaxation with the **Adult Coloring Night** on Tuesday, September 11th, from 6 p.m. 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!

Join us for an **Adult Craft Night** on Tuesday, September 18th, at 6:30 p.m.

The Junk in the Trunk garage sale will be Saturday, September 22nd, at 8 a.m. to Noon. Please come and shop or call the Library to register as a seller at no cost to you. Seller set-up begins at 7 a.m.

Fall Story time begins weekly on Saturdays, starting September 15th at 10:30 a.m. Come enjoy stories and play time.

Author Rachael Hruza, a Wayne native, will be our guest reader for Story Time on Saturday, September 29th, at 10:30 a.m. She will also be doing an **Author talk** at 11 a.m. Hruza is the writer of, “Dear Isaac New-

ton You’re Ruining My Life.”

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; the activities are geared for children and infants through age 5.

Fall hours are in effect after Labor Day, which means we are open on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

“Competition brings out the best in products and the worst in people.”

~ David Sarnoff,
Pioneer of American
Commercial Radio and TV.

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 am.—Noon

Or by appointment
Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday

Green Notes ~ Electronics Recycling Event



Electronics Recycling, Saturday, September 15th, East-bound 3rd St between Lincoln & Pearl!!

For the 6th year in a row, the City of Wayne is hosting an electronics recycling collection event on **Saturday, September 15th, from 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.** (ends earlier if the truck fills up). Drive eastbound on 3rd Street between Lincoln and Pearl in front of the City Hall Parking lot to responsibly dispose of your e-waste. Bring your old TVs, computers, cell phones, printers, cords and more to recycle right, and keep electronics out of the landfill, where they can become hazardous to our soil and groundwater.

Note, this block of 3rd Street will be closed to traffic. Enter from Lincoln Street to unload your electronics and exit onto Pearl Street.

FEES: Suggested donation of \$10 per carload or \$50 per business load of reasonable size. Fees for CRTs (tube) of \$5/monitor and \$10/TV (no charge for flatscreens); and \$10/microwave. Sorry, no large appliances, batteries or VHS tapes. A full list of acceptable items and fees are on our website.

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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306 Pearl Street
Wayne NE 68787
(402) 375-1733
wblecke@cityofwayne.org

YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT. YOUR HOME.

