



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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EnergyWise Tip ~ Holiday Surprises

Ever rediscover one of those Christmas gifts you intended to give during the holidays but forgot where you hid it until the following February? It can be a pleasant surprise if you can still gift it in the future, return it for a refund or use it yourself. Unfortunately, your January or February electric bill may reflect similar holiday surprises. I'm referring to those things you did or items you used during the festivities that may have negatively impacted your electrical bill. Unfortunately, you can't undo or "re-gift" these holiday surprises, and you will have to pay for the energy they waste regardless of whether they added to your seasonal cheer.

Space heaters

Nobody wants to be cold for Christmas! To chase away the chill, you may find it convenient to plug in a portable space heater in a spare bedroom or other seldomly-used area to accommodate guests. But do you shut off the heater after they leave?

When investigating wintertime "high bill" inquiries, the most common responses residential energy consultants hear about space heaters is, "Oh, that little heater couldn't have added that much to my bill!" Nearly all space heaters have more than one temperature setting. Of those, the highest setting usually operates around 1,500 watts or 1.5 kilowatts (kW). If the heater operates continuously at that level for an entire month (30 days or 720 hours), it will add 1,080 kilowatt-hours (kWh) to your electric bill. At Nebraska's 2019 average residential price of electricity (11.84¢/kWh), that little heater magically adds \$128! Don't open yourself up to this kind of surprise. To ensure the heater does not operate when unneeded, simply unplug it.

Chimney flue

A warm and glowing fire invites everyone to share in the spirit of

the season. But once the embers are extinguished and the fumes vented, heated indoor air continues to escape up the stack. Surprise! As soon as safely possible, tightly close the damper to minimize the amount of conditioned air escaping up the chimney. Check the seals around your damper, then repair or replace dampers that don't tightly seal.

Exhaust fans

Whether it's grandma trying to clear the kitchen of smoke from burning bacon or Uncle Eddie clearing the bathroom from whatever was burning him, somebody's going to turn on an exhaust fan. Chances are, that fan will continue to run long after pollutants are gone. Kitchen exhaust hoods can often draw 250 to 500 cubic feet of air per minute (cfm). Bathroom exhaust fans remove 50 to 150 cfm. When they are ducted to the outdoors, conditioned air pulled out of the house is replaced by cold outdoor air that is sucked in through gaps or tiny cracks around windows, doors, foundations, rooflines or other wall penetrations. All this "new" air must be heated to maintain indoor comfort. To minimize the amount of additional heating required, turn kitchen exhaust hoods off as soon as airborne food contaminants are removed, and install a timer switch on bathroom fans to minimize over-exhausting.

Gaming systems

Inevitably, Santa will bring some lucky child one of newest gaming systems, like the PlayStation 4 Pro, rated at a maximum of 165 watts, or the Xbox One X, rated at 245 watts, or even worse, a dedicated Gaming PC drawing 750 continuous watts. Then, with delight in their heart, that child will skip gleefully to the room with your entertainment center and connect their new gaming system to your 85-inch big screen television that draws 175 watts, as well as the surround sound sys-

tem that pulls another 150 watts. For the rest of the holiday vacation, they become affixed to YOUR couch challenging siblings, aunts, uncles, and even the mailman to a video game showdown while your electric meter is spinning. Now ask yourself this – "What is the likelihood of them turning off everything when they finally put down their controller?" Go and check to avoid this surprise. Better yet, if electronics won't be used in the next few hours, unplug them, as most electronics still draw a small amount of power when they are turned "off."

Lights

By now, you know LED Christmas lights can use up to 99% less energy per bulb than conventional incandescent lights. But if your home is filled with family and especially young kids this season, anticipate every light you own will be turned on at some time. According to a survey conducted by Lutron Electronics, 90% of Americans say someone in their household forgets to turn the lights off when they leave a room. Surprised? Don't be. After your last guest leaves, take a thorough tour of your home and outside buildings. You'll likely be glad you did.

Your local public utility wishes you and those closest to you the best of holiday seasons. For additional ideas on how you can make your home comfortable and EnergyWiseSM this winter, contact your local electric utility. You find you are eligible for incentives to help with the cost of energy-saving home improvements.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 7th
January 21st

**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!!**
**It's not only the right
thing to do—it's the
law!!**



**City Offices will be
closed Wednesday,
January 1st, for the
New Year's Holiday,
and Monday, January
20th, in observance of
the Martin Luther King
Holiday**



Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~

Keep your eyes peeled for Community Pop-Up Story Time: Community Story Time with WPL and local businesses is coming soon! Stay tuned for announcements and updates on this via our Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Adult New Year Reading Challenge begins! This challenge will run January-April; there will be different challenges as well as prizes available at the end of each month! Stop by the WPL circulation desk to sign up and pick up your January challenge booklet today!

Check out the "Friends of the Library" magazine sale located near the entrance of the Library! Magazines will be on display for purchase throughout the month of January.

"Minute to Win It" games will be available from 2-4 p.m. on Thursday, January 2nd. Test your skills against other players and get a chance to win a prize!

Call WPL to reserve your spot at Kids Escape Room on January 3rd! Times available will be: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., and 4 p.m.

Can you solve the escape room and make it out of the library? Call WPL to reserve your spot at Adult Escape Room on January 4th! Times available will be: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., and 3 p.m.

Toddler Time is back at new times! Join us for Toddler Time on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Little ones

enjoy stories, music, and busy bags to promote early literacy, writing and math skills.

Need something to do after school? Check out "After School Coloring," now twice a month! Friday, January 10th and Friday, January 24th from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Adults will be on hand for conversation and color pages, crayons, markers and pens, plus a light snack will be provided.

Relax at "Adult Coloring Night" sponsored by Pac-N-Save on Tuesday, January 14th from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Library. All color pages, crayons, markers and pens, plus a light snack will be available at this FREE event sponsored by Pac-N-Save. Coloring Nights are open to persons 18 and older.

The brand new "Weekend Book Club" will begin in the new year on Saturday, January 25th at 2:00 p.m. Stay tuned to our Social Media pages for updates in the beginning of January to see what book we will be reading first!

The "Needle Night Group" continues to meet. This is a very informal group and isn't limited to knitting. "We welcome anyone who crochets, weaves, etc., and set aside every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for needlework with all who shows up."

Book Club will kick off the New Year with a discussion about "Where the Crawdads Sing." The club will meet on Tuesday, January

28th from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center. For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life--until the unthinkable happens.

Join Adult Services Librarian Sharon in crafting Custom Pendant Jewelry on Tuesday, January 21st from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Cost per pendant crafted will be \$2 Please call WPL at 402-375-3135 to reserve your spot at craft night! Crafters are encouraged to bring their own pictures or photos to put into their pendants; otherwise, there will be pictures and magazines available to craft from.

Join us for a heroic night of crime-fighting trivia at "Superhero Trivia Night" with WPL! Friday, January 31st, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Location to be announced. Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed super-fantastic trivia team! The questions during this trivia night will focus solely on trivia about superhero films and movies, rather than comic books.

WISE WORDS

"If you really want to do something, you will find a way; if you don't, you'll find an excuse."

~Jim Rohn

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 ~ January 2020—A Green Start to the New Year



If your house feels full of too many holiday purchases, then it's time to take stock and do a home cleanse to see what you no longer need or use. Wayne has great options for you to donate or resell your stuff at our local thrift stores and more. A full list of where to take reusable goods in Wayne is at www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam. The list includes eyeglasses, books, prescription medicines, plastic bags, inkjet printer cartridges, and more.

You can always recycle for free at the Wayne Recycling & Trash Center located at 110 Windom Street, open Mon and Fri, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm, Tue 11 am – 2 pm and Sat, 8:00 am – noon. The station accepts glass, cardboard, plastics bottles (no plastic bags), and scrap metal, and has recycling drop-offs for local Boy Scout Troop #174's collection of aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, and mixed paper. Don't forget you can still bring your strings of holiday lights in for recycling through the end of January.

Take Trees to the City's Brush Pile. At the end of the holiday season, dispose of your Christmas tree (without any decorations or tinsel) and greenery at the City's brush pile at 1810 Industrial Road.

Green Team Meeting January 14: We invite you to attend our Green Team meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon in the back room of Tacos n More, with the exception meetings are not held during the months of June, August and December. Come join us and help Wayne continue its journey to zero waste!

Go 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.

