



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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Energy Wise Tip ~ Space Heaters

Can you really save up to 50 percent on your heating bill by using a special space heater? Some advertisers would like you to believe so. When seeing their ads, initially you may think, "Wow! I spent a lot of money keeping warm last winter! I can cut that amount in half!"

Then, you see the special offer price. Originally \$499.95, you can order now for \$299.00!!! You are convinced you will easily save that much in one winter. This is an incredible deal! Or is it?

Before you rush out and buy one of these miracle heaters, look a little closer at what you are going to have to do to achieve those savings. The fine print at the bottom of the page says that savings to your heating bill come from setting your main thermostat in your house to as low as 50 degrees and moving the space heater to the single room you will be occupying. In doing so, the savings do not come from operating the heater, but rather from not heating the rest of the house. Unfortunately, most people do not realize this. If you do not lower your main thermostat, you could actually spend more heating your home while using

your magic heater!

Very few homeowners achieve the maximum savings heater manufacturers claim they can. After one heating season, homeowners are often disappointed they did not save more and are frustrated that they paid a lot of money for a heater that performed the same as one they could have purchased for under \$100.

What's the truth? The first truth is that electricity is often the most expensive energy to heat your home with unless a heat pump system is being used. People who rely on electrical resistance heating systems are some of the most motivated at finding other ways to conserve energy (and save money).

The second truth relates to claims from some electric heater manufacturers that their units are more efficient than their competitor's models. These claims are simply not true. Why? Because all resistance based electric heaters are 100 percent efficient at converting electricity to heat. The cheapest unit creates heat just as efficiently as the most expensive one and in the same way.

A portable heater can improve comfort in hard-to-heat areas, but using one does not guarantee you will save in heating costs. Note that most homeowners can achieve greater savings from money spent on insulation, weather stripping, servicing their in-place heating and cooling equipment, changing filters, installing LED lamps, using programmable thermostats, purchasing ENERGY STAR® appliances or setting back the temperature setting on their thermostat when they are not at home.

Your local utility wishes you and your family a cozy and warm winter season. Part of our commitment to providing you outstanding customer service includes helping you make the most of the energy you use throughout the year. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWiseSM, contact Gene Hansen, Electric Production Superintendent, at 375-2866.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 3rd
January 17th

VACANCIES

The City of Wayne is looking for people interested in serving on the following Boards and/or Commissions:

- Board of Adjustment**
- Board of Appeal**
- Library Board**
- Board of Health**

If you are interested in serving your community by being on one of these boards/commission, please contact Betty McGuire, City Clerk, at (402) 375-1733.



Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~

The holidays are over for another year, and the staff at Wayne Public Library is settling down for winter activities. Our biggest news for the new year is the addition of a new database available to our patrons at home, on the road, or in the library.

BrainHQ is an online resource, delivering life-enhancing brain fitness exercise. It is an online suite of 27 exercises with 840+ levels of training organized around the 6 core cognitive areas of Attention, Brain Speed, Memory, People Skills, Intelligence and Navigation. Exercises are delivered in short 2 minute or less segments, adapting speed and delivery to your performance. A private, personal dashboard visualizes your performance and provides feedback and suggestions on areas of focus. To try it out, just visit the library page at library.cityofwayne.org and click on the BrainHQ image on the right. You will need your library card number to sign in. Call the library at 402-375-3135 for assistance or more information.

Old favorites are back also. The annual magazine sale runs January 3 through January 28. At just 10 cents an issue this is a great deal. Federal income tax forms will be arriving soon (we hope). As always, we can help you get the forms you need, but can provide no

tax advice. And Coloring Night returns January 10, 6 to 7:30 pm. This popular program is available to high school grads and older.

Children's programming begins again after the holiday break on January 4 with Mother Goose Lapsit on Wednesday mornings at 10:30, Evening Story Hour on Thursdays at 6:30 pm, and the Winter Story Hour with stories and activities on Saturday mornings at 10:30.



The adult book club is reading *The Life-changing Magic of Tidying Up* by Marie Kondo during January, and will meet to discuss the book on Tuesday, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. Reading a new book every month, the book club meets the Tuesday of the month. Some of the titles selected for 2017 include *The storied life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin, *The Martian* by Andy Weir, *Warrior of the People* by Joe Starita, and *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder. New members are always welcome!

For those of you have a smart phone and have been wondering

how to make full use of all the many features they offer, Wayne Public Library is offering a class on Using Your Smart Phone in January. Keep your eyes open for the date.



Many of us will have received new electronic gadgets for Christmas To help you figure out how to use yours to access library services, Wayne Public Library is again offering our Tech Tutor on Wednesdays from 4-6 pm. Call ahead to book up to 30 minutes with one of our staff members. We can help with tablets, Nooks, Kindles, etc. If you know how to use your electronic device, stop in any time and learn about BrainHQ (brain exercises), Pronunciator (foreign languages), Overdrive (downloadable books) and Freegal (downloadable and streaming music).

See you at the Library!

WISE WORDS

"Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it."

—General Dwight Eisenhower

REMINDER

**City Offices
will be closed
Monday, January 2nd, for
the New
Year's Holi-
day.**



Green Notes ~ Green up your Holidays!



If your house feels full of all those holiday purchases, then 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 consignment shops, thrift stores, and more. A full list of where to take odds and ends in Wayne is posted on our website at www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam, and includes watch batteries, prescription medicines, eye glass-

es, books, plastic bags, inkjet printer cartridges, and more.

You can always recycle for free at the Wayne Transfer Station, located at 110 South Windom St. and open Mon and Fri, 9:00am – 1:30pm, Tue 11am – 6pm (or til 3pm in winter) and Sat, 8:00am – noon. The station accepts glass, cardboard, plastics bottles (no plastic bags), & scrap metal, and has recycling drop offs for local

Boy Scout Troop #174 of aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, and mixed paper. Don't forget you can still bring your strings of holiday lights to be recycled at the Wayne Transfer Station or City Hall.

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