



# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

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January

## JANUARY—ENERGYWISE TIP



It's happening again! Just as the Yuletide spirit starts to gear up, so does the battle between the Grizwatts and the Schneevolts. Each family refuses to be outdone by the other for having the best family Christmas celebration. Without realizing, each family has also engaged in the competition of who can be the least energy-efficient during the holiday season for the last 10 years! The prize? The highest utility bills in the neighborhood this December!

Over the last decade, here's what each family did and didn't do to manage energy costs:

### Grizwatt losses:

- ◆ Papa Clark loves the look of the old nostalgic Christmas lights with the C9 bulbs. He usually puts up 15 to 20 strands.
- ◆ Aunt Edna loves a good Christmas-time soaking in the hot tub to soften her toenails. (Don't ask!) So she wouldn't complain, the family turned the outdoor hot tub up to 110°F and didn't bother to cover it when she wasn't "marinating."
- ◆ After the family feast, Uncle Lewis got a hot flash, so he opened four windows in the living room. They were never shut until Ruby Sue got chilled at

Valentine's Day.

- ◆ Mama Ellen continuously ran the kitchen range exhaust fan, claiming it was necessary to remove the burnt figgy pudding smell, but her mom suspects it was to cover up her closet smoking habit.
- ◆ Daughter Audrey turned up the water heater to 150°F so she wouldn't run out of hot water, even if Grandma Frances left it on continuously while rinsing dishes.
- ◆ Cousin Eddie plugs in the extra refrigerator in the furnace room to "cool" his night crawlers and holiday beverages.
- ◆ Cousin Catherine discovered the house became warmer more quickly by switching the heat pump thermostat to "emergency/backup." Why use the heat pump mode when the furnace does fine by itself, she thought!

### Schneevolt losses:

- ◆ Ampy Schneevolt wanted gift opening around a roaring fire. Unfortunately, he left the fireplace flue open until his St. Patrick's Day fire.
- ◆ Cousin Wyedy's diesel pickup didn't like winter, so he plugged in his engine block heater for the duration of his three-

week stay, during which it was very cold.

- ◆ Uncle Shorty had a problem with the master blower for his "Christmas Inflatables" display. Therefore, he jiffy-rigged Grandpa Ohmer's air compressor to run continuously.
- ◆ Though Aunt Thermen worked 40 years for the natural gas industry, the family wired the sunroom with electric radiant heat and figured 78°F was a comfortable setting for the month.
- ◆ Due to Cousin Ether's video gaming addition, the Y-box and other electronics were left on and battery chargers were plugged in continuously when not in use.
- ◆ Zap, the family dog, had a bowel infection. Grandpa Hertz figured penning him into the master bathroom and leaving the exhaust fan "on" was the best way to deal with that.
- ◆ The entire Schneevolt family knew how to turn a light switch "on" when they needed it, but never could figure out how to shut lights off when they left a room.

### Inside this issue:

<i>Energywise Tip</i>	1
<i>Department News</i>	2
◆ <i>Library</i>	
◆ <i>Green Notes</i>	

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 2nd  
January 16th

### **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.



## 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. Stop in each day over school break for a different activity as a part of our 'Tis the Season for Holiday Fun.

We are excited to be working with the Wayne State College Department of Education and offering after school tutoring for grades K-8 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will begin the week of January 22<sup>nd</sup> and continue through March 28<sup>th</sup> (with the exception of the week of March 5<sup>th</sup> when Wayne State is on Spring Break).

The annual magazine sale runs January 2nd through January 28th. At just 10 cents an issue, this is a great deal.

IRS Tax forms and instruction booklets will be available in limited numbers. All tax forms are available on-line at IRS.gov. Library staff will help patrons print copies for a charge of 10 cents per printed side. Nebraska Tax forms are only available on-line. As always, we can help you get the forms you need, but can provide no tax advice.

Adult Coloring will be held on Tuesday, January 9th, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a relaxing evening. All coloring supplies and light refreshments will be available. This is a FREE program open to high school graduates and older. This program is sponsored by Pac-N-Save.

Children's programming begins again after the holiday break on January 4 with Mother Goose Lapsit on Wednesday mornings at 10:00, and the Winter Story Hour with stories and activities on Saturday mornings at 10:30.

The Library Book Club will resume discussions on Tuesday, January 30th, at 6:30 pm. Newcomers are always welcome. We will be reading *Bones of Paradise* by Jonis Agee. The novel is a multigenerational family saga set in the unforgiving Nebraska Sand Hills in the years following the massacre at Wounded Knee—an ambitious tale of history, vengeance, race, guilt, betrayal, family, and belonging, filled with a vivid cast of characters shaped by violence, love, and a desperate loyalty to the land. Stop in the library to learn what the books have been selected for the year.

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 Ask-A-Librarian sessions on Mondays in January. 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).

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 continuing to offer classes with Chele Meisenbach this next year. Classes will resume February 12th with Smart Phone 101. Call the library today at 375-3135 to register today.

See you at the Library!

#### WISE WORDS

*“One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency.”*

~Arnold H. Glasow

#### REMINDER

**City Offices will be closed Monday, January 1st and January 15th for the New Year's Day and Martin Luther King's Day Holidays**



### Green Notes ~ Reminders for the New Year!



**Recycle Strings of Lights.** Bring your old strings of holiday lights for recycling to the Wayne Transfer Station or City Hall and place in the bins marked for lights. These are recycled for the copper wire inside. When replacing, consider LED lights, which last longer, use less energy, and save money.

**Use the City's Brush Pile.** Don't forget about the City's brush pile at 1810 Industrial Road for disposing of your Christmas tree (without any decorations or tinsel) and greenery at the end of the holiday season.

**Recycle Batteries.** Our Battery Recycling program is off to a great start, accumulating 50 pounds in the first month.

You can bring household batteries to City Hall and place in the battery pail. Please visit our Battery Recycling How to Guide on our website for details on the types of batteries accepted and which ones require taped terminals. Clear tape is provided next to the battery pail.

**Electronics Recycling Results.** Our electronics recycling event held last September officially collected over 19,000 pounds of electronics! Thank you for responsibly disposing of these items so we can keep hazardous substances out of our landfills. We will host another event in September of this year.

For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit [www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam](http://www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam).

#### YOUR RIGHT:

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:

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

**YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT. YOUR HOME.**

