



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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ENERGYWISE TIP ~ COLD SHOWERS



If you have or have had teenagers in your household, you probably can relate to hopping into the shower at some point for a quick wash only to discover cold water pouring out regardless of where you adjust the faucet. Yes, that last person who doused themselves in a luxurious, steamy soaking for 30 minutes used up all the hot water! While you are standing there trying to towel the icicles off your shivering body, here are a couple of things that might get your blood boiling. First, it may take two hours or more for your 50-gallon electric hot water heater to fully recover. Second, that hot water recovery probably costs about one dollar each time it occurs. If this happens frequently in your home, it could be costing you some cash!

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, about 18 percent of all energy used in American homes goes toward heating water. It is second only to energy used to heat and cool your home. Fortunately, there are a few things you can do to take control of your water heating costs.

First, you might attempt to change the perception of certain “shower hogs” of what is a reasonable length of time for a shower. Through surveys, the U.S. Department of Energy has determined the average shower is eight minutes and consumes 10 gallons of hot water. Try setting a count-down timer to eight or less minutes to remind any “shower loiterers” how long they have been daw-

dling.

Another source of unnecessary hot water use relates to shower “warm-up” time. Nobody wants to stand under the cold stream of water initially spouting from the showerhead. Rather, the shower is turned on and unoccupied until heated water arrives. Sadly, many lose track of how long this waiting period is and allow hot water to flow long after the water is warmed and long before they get wet. To call attention to this common oversight, time how long it takes warm water to arrive at your showerhead after turning the hot water on. Then, use that same count-down timer described above to remind your household’s violator when the shower is ready to go!

Do you have a drippy showerhead that never quite shuts off because of the hot water valve? At one drip per second, you are losing more than five gallons of hot water each day. Over the course of one year, that equates to nearly 2,100 gallons. At a cost of 11 cents per kilowatt-hour, your electric hot water heater is adding an extra \$43 a year to your power bill. Fix that drip!

Now, consider your showerhead. Since 1992, it has been federally mandated that showerheads sold in the U.S. have a maximum flow rate of 2.5 gallons-per-minute (GPM). Note, there is no minimum! Installing one that restricts flow to 2 GPM or less can provide savings of 20 percent or more!

Finally, investigate where your water heater is set. Most hot water heaters do not have calibrated thermostats that can be precisely set to produce a particular temperature. Rather, you will want to use a thermometer directly under the showerhead to measure output after the water has ran long enough to reach its maximum temperature. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends a setting that produces water no hotter than 120°F. This not only saves energy, it greatly reduces scalding risks.

To reduce the temperature, turn the thermostat to “cooler,” “lower” or a lower temperature reading. Wait at least four hours to allow the whole tank to be affected by the change. Then, measure the temperature again as described above. Remember that most electric water heaters have two thermostats! It may take several tries to get the temperature setting you desire. Regardless of where your current temperature is, for every 10°F reduction, you can save from 3 to 5 percent on your water heating costs.

For additional ideas on how you can reduce your hot water costs, as well as where you might save additional energy in your home or business, contact your local electric utility.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 3rd
April 17th

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 ~

Happy spring from Wayne Public Library!

A reminder that we will be closed Sunday, April 1st, for the holiday.



Mother Goose continues on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. This month, the themes are Big & Little, Lost, Don't Jump to Conclusions, and Books. Stories are followed by activities that promote early skill building.

Join us for the activities during National Library Week.

Monday—Family Friendly Movie at 5:30 p.m. on April 9th. Join us for "Ferdinand" in the children's room. Feel free to bring a sack supper; popcorn & juice will be provided.

Tuesday—Coloring Night is scheduled for April 10th, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Library. All coloring 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 men and women high school grads and older.

Wednesday—Plant a Seed on April 11th from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.—kids will get to plant herbs or flower seeds and enjoy a treat, so stop in.

Thursday—Remembering the Holocaust by Edith R. Shapiro, Survivor, on April 12th at 11:30 a.m. in the Senior Center. Hear her family memories & stories. If you wish to eat lunch, reservations need to be made by noon on April 11th. Please call for prices & menu - [402-375-1460](tel:402-375-1460).

Friday—Open house with treats served from 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. on April 13th.

The Friends of the Library annual book sale will be April 12th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (for Friends Members), April 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and April 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Prices are 25 cents and up. There will be hardback books, paperback books, DVD's, multimedia, magazines, children's books and more. Something for everyone, so plan on stopping by! We will not be accepting donations of items after April 7th at the Library, but if you miss that date, you can drop them at the auditorium in the morning on Thursday, April 12th.

National Volunteer Appreciation week is April 15th-21st. The Library will honor all of the wonderful volunteers that have helped us throughout the year on Monday April 16th from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Monday April 16th at 6:00 p.m. the Library will host Smart Phone 101-Just the Basics. You will learn about what kind of phone you have, learn how to answer your phone, texting, emails and talk about what apps are. You'll need the passwords for your phone and emails, and you will need to have an email connected with your phone. We will also discuss what using your data means. Bring your questions! Registration is required. Call [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135) or stop in to sign up today.

Be sure to stop by the Community Activity Center on April 19th & 20th from 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. or April 21st from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon to see Kim and sign up for Summer Reading Program "Libraries Rock!" SRP will kick off on May 30th!



The Library will once again take part in the Community Garage Sale Events by hosting Junk in the Trunk. The first sale date will be Saturday, April 21st, 8:00 a.m. to Noon in the Library parking lot. Call the Library to save a spot. Just drive in at 7:00 a.m., set out your treasures and drive away at the end. We are looking forward to a fun year.

We are pleased to offer a preview of NET & PBS Kids "Cat in the Hat Knows A Lot About Camping." We will be show the 50 minute movie on Saturday April 21st at 1:00 p.m. and serve some treats.

Join in the April 24th, 6:30 p.m. Book Club discussion *Before we were yours* by Lisa Wingate. The novel tells a story, based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals in the late 1930s and 40s--in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country. Lisa Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong. The book has been on the New York Times Bestsellers' List for 25 weeks. Copies are available for checkout.

Ask at our circulation desk to learn more about our databases available to you 24/7 online. If you have a recommendation for a program or book purchase, let us know!

WISE WORDS

"Would I rather be feared or loved? Easy. Both. I want people to be afraid of how much they love me."

~ Michael Scott, The Office

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 ~ Celebrate Earth Day every day!



Earth Day was first celebrated in 1970 on April 22 to focus a national day on the environment. This annual event is now 48 years old and recognized around the world, with the goal to protect and sustain our Earth and its resources. Join us this month at our special events celebrating the Earth.

April 13, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, Household Hazardous Waste Event at Wayne Transfer Station. For a \$10 drop-off fee, bring your household hazardous waste for proper disposal to the Wayne Transfer Station, 110 S Windom St. HHW items include: lightbulbs, latex & oil-based paints, yard & garden chemicals, oil, cleaning chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, anti-freeze, car batteries, and mercury or mercury-containing devices, including CFLs. Household quantities only. **Not accepted:** tires, electronics, appliances, PCBs, picric acid, science lab materials, radioactive materials, or biological hazards. Sponsored by Northeast Nebraska RC&D, Nebraska Environmental Trust, Wayne Green Team and Gill Hauling.

April 20, 10 am, Zero Waste Chamber Coffee hosted by Wayne Green Team. This Zero Waste Chamber Coffee will be at the Wayne Transfer Station, 110 S Windom St. Bring your own mug and see demos on what you can and cannot recycle in Wayne. #RecycleRight

April 22, 6:30 pm, Before the Flood at the Majestic Theatre. Join us on Earth Day at the Majestic Theatre for a free screening of the powerful documentary *Before the Flood*, a riveting account of the dramatic changes now occurring around the world due to climate change, as well as the actions we can take to prevent catastrophic disruption of life on our planet. Doors open at 6:30 pm for exhibits, raffles, and discussion, and the 96 -minute film begins at 7 pm. Raffle tickets are one for \$5 or five for \$20 and raise funds for the WSC Green Team. This free event is hosted by the WSC Green Team, the City of Wayne Green Team, and the A. Jewell Schock Museum of Natural History, with funding from the Nebraska Recycling Council. Bring your own popcorn container and cup to the movie to make it zero waste.

We believe every day is Earth Day, and we know each one of our actions can make an impact on reducing waste and increasing sustainability.

For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, find the Wayne Green Team on Facebook, Twitter, and www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam.

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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:

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

YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT. YOUR HOME.

