



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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EnergyWise Tip ~ Hot Tubs

It doesn't matter what time of year it is (except maybe August); nothing beats a soak in your hot tub after a hard day's work. Whether you've got sore muscles of which only pulsating jets will take out the tension or a tension headache that requires the enveloping warmth and soothing sound of air bubbles rising to the surface, many of us consider a good "soak" the best way to restore our physical and mental well-being. The trusty hot tub can also help us get a few hours of rest before we start our whole routine over again the next morning.

If we're not careful, this source of rejuvenation can also be the source of high energy costs. Perhaps your hot tub sales representative said adding a hot tub should only add \$10 to \$20 per month to your electric bill. That may be so if you install yours in a climatically-controlled room using perfect energy management practices. In reality, installation location along with a lack of attention to maintenance and temperature settings often create energy cost surprises five to 10 times greater than this during Nebraska's winter months. So much for that "relaxing" feeling!

Today's initial cost for a new hot tub can range from \$2,000 to more than \$20,000. Mid-grade hot tubs have an average lifespan of about 10 years. Lower quality

models, improper installation or inattention to maintenance may only provide you five years. Better warranted, higher-quality and well-maintained systems can surpass 25 years of active use. Here are four important considerations in keeping the "hot" in your hot tub throughout the years without breaking the bank:

Location – If your hot tub is outside, insulate and seal around it well. If possible, provide some sort of shelter from cold winds. While most lower-to-mid-level tubs come with their own insulated housing, some may not give consideration to heat loss from the bottom of the unit. If it's inside, significant air-quality and air-conditioning issues need to be addressed to avoid molds, mildews, etc. Check your owner's manual or reach out to the manufacturer, as location has the largest influence on energy usage.

Cover – Install and use a quality cover whenever the tub is not in use. Since the water surface loses the most heat, uncover only when using it. To further reduce energy losses due to evaporation, install a secondary "thermal blanket," which floats on the water's surface. Neglecting to cover and seal up your hot tub when not in use will have a major impact on energy usage regardless

of where it is installed.

Settings – Check your owner's manual or ask your dealer how low you can set your tub's temperature and have it heat up to your comfort level in a reasonable amount of time. The lower you can leave the temperature when it's not in use and the longer between uses of the tub, the more you can save. Usually, hot tub thermostats come preprogrammed at 104°F. A rough rule-of-thumb is that it will take 15 to 20 minutes to regain each degree you turn the thermostat down. Contrary to urban legend, you don't lose the savings when you turn the temperature up again.

Maintenance – If it says, "Replace filter after 18 months", DO IT! Replace more frequently if your tub takes in more dust, is exposed to more airborne particulates or if it's used by numerous people. When in doubt, refer to your owner's manual.

Your local utility wants to help you make the most of the energy you need. That includes the electricity needed to run your hot tub: your magical revitalization machine! For additional ways you can become EnergyWiseSM, contact your local utility,

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

April 7th
April 21st

NOTICE TO WAYNE UTILITY CUSTOMERS

In an effort to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus, City Hall is closed to the public until further notice.

We are encouraging utility payments be made by using the City's on-line bill pay services or by calling (402) 375-1733 to pay by debit/credit card. Checks and cash (to closest dollar amount) can still be dropped off in the two drop boxes located in the front and back of City Hall.

Department News ~

Wayne Public Library ~

The physical Wayne Public Library location is closed to the public until further notice. We miss all of our patrons and hope everyone is staying safe and healthy!

At this time, the Wayne Public Library staff will be on hand to take phone calls Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call us at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135) with questions.

Follow us on Facebook: [waynepubliclibrary1902](https://www.facebook.com/waynepubliclibrary1902) for updates on the status of the Library, online resources, and online programming.

The Wayne Public Library is offering a curbside pickup service for materials at this time, where patrons can put materials on hold and pick up from us next-day via a pick up table near our front doors.

Visit Facebook or our website for more information: www.cityofwayne.org/753/WPL-Curbside-Pickup-2020

Watch this video for a tutorial on how to log into our online catalog: <https://www.facebook.com/waynepubliclibrary1902/videos/1536273569872825/>

You can also call us at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135) to request materials if you do not have online access.

Want material to read or watch but are unsure of what to pick? Give us a call and a librarian will help curate a selection with you.

Returns: You can continue to return materials via our book drop slot. Returned items will be quarantined and disinfected as recommended by the American Library Association.

If a material you've returned is still shown as checked out on your account, it is most likely because the item is still

in quarantine. Any fines accrued while the item is in quarantine will be waived.

Your wait for materials placed on a hold may be longer due to quarantine times.

Anything stated here is subject to change due to the uncertainty involved with the novel COVID-19. Please call us or visit our website for up-to-date information:

Phone: [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135)

Website: cityofwayne.org/library

Facebook: [facebook.com/waynepubliclibrary1902/](https://www.facebook.com/waynepubliclibrary1902/)

Twitter: twitter.com/WayneNELibrary

Instagram: [instagram.com/waynenelibrary/](https://www.instagram.com/waynenelibrary/)

WISE WORDS

“You’ve heard that it’s wise to learn from experience, but it is wiser to learn from the experience of others.”

~Rick Warren

WAYNE RECYCLING & TRASH CENTER HOURS

Monday & Friday
9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Tuesday
11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Saturday
8:00 a.m.—Noon

Or by appointment
Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday

Green Notes ~ Recycle your Batteries Right



April 22, 2020, will mark 50 years of Earth Day, now a global celebration. Due to precautions surrounding the coronavirus, our Earth Day events this year are cancelled, but we continue to celebrate its meaning and history.

Earth Day started as a unified response to an environment in crisis—oil spills, smog, rivers so polluted they literally caught fire. 20 million Americans took to the streets, college campuses (including Wayne State College) and hundreds of cities to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet.

The Earth Day movement launched a wave of action, including passage of landmark environmental laws in the U.S., such as the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts, along with the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. Many countries adopted similar laws following our lead in the U.S.

Now more than ever, it is important we continue the efforts started 50 years ago by recog-

nizing the value of our environment and our ability to protect it. Our community has shown this commitment through a variety of efforts, including electronic recycling events, household hazardous waste collections, Earth Day documentaries, and a thriving reuse market.

Let’s keep up this good work and celebrate Earth Day every day with our actions. Reduce waste by shopping local, eating all the food on your plate and in your fridge, carrying a reusable water bottle, skipping plastic straws, and so much more. Check out updates to our flyers for the Wayne Recycling & Trash Center, the Battery Recycling Program, and Zero Waste in Wayne on our website. Together, we can protect our environment and leave it beautiful for future generations.

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

