



# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

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## ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Preparing for the Cold

 From October through March, the average Nebraska home consumes more than one-third of its annual energy requirements to keep warm and cozy. It is no wonder heating is the largest energy expenditure most people have. Here are a few ways to keep a few more energy dollars in your pocket this year:

Evaluate your insulation. Since it is seldom seen, most people do not consider whether their home is adequately insulated. Inside exterior walls and above ceilings, insulation is critical to maintaining a comfortable indoor temperature and lowering energy usage. Throughout Nebraska, attics should be insulated to a minimum R-49. Exterior walls providing an R-value less than 13 definitely have need for additional cavity or exterior sheath insulation.

Seal air leaks. While old windows are often characterized as energy losers, it is usually the air leaks around and through them that causes the greatest energy losses. Worn out frames and cracked seals can allow warm air to escape during the winter.

Cracked caulking and improper sealing during installation are additional reasons to investigate.

Tune-up your heating system. Have a certified HVAC specialist perform a tune up to ensure all of the heating system's parts are in good working order. This includes inspecting your heating system, cleaning and adjusting each component as necessary, replacing the filter, and testing its overall efficiency. Regular maintenance for your HVAC system will prevent breakdowns, increase efficiency, extend the system's lifespan.

Use space heaters wisely. Space heaters can consume a lot of energy, especially if used continuously. Be mindful of when and where you use them. They can be more effective at reducing heating costs if they are used in one specific room or area instead of the entire house. However, if that room or area is not well insulated and has air leaks, the space heater will run nonstop, resulting in higher energy costs.

Manage the fireplace. If a fire isn't burning in the fireplace, keep the fireplace damper closed.

When the damper is open and there isn't a fire burning, warm air can escape through the chimney. Purchasing energy-efficient fireplace grates is also a good investment. These grates will help circulate cool air into the fireplace while pushing warm air back into the room.

Install a smart thermostat. Set it up to adjust temperatures to 70°F or lower when you're home and to automatically lower the set point to 65°F or lower during bedtime hours or while no one is home.

Your local utility wants to help you efficiently keep your home warm this winter. They may also provide EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup> incentives for reducing the cost of some efficiency-improvement projects. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup>, contact them, or visit [www.energywisenebraska.com](http://www.energywisenebraska.com) for more information.

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### CITY COUNCIL

#### MEETINGS

November 7th

November 21st

### CITY HALL

#### OFFICE HOURS

City Hall Office Hours are:

7:30 a.m.

until 4:30 p.m.

### NOTICE

City Offices will be closed Friday, November 10th, in observance of Veteran's Day and also Thursday and Friday, November 23rd and 24th, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



## Department News ~



**DISCOVER A NEW WAY TO PAY!**

Paying your bill has never been easier and you've never had more options!

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- Make a one-time payment, schedule a payment, or sign up for auto pay
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### WISE WORDS

*“Never put off till tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow just as well!”*

~Mark Twain

## Library ~

**WE WILL BE CLOSED on November 22nd for cleaning and on November 23rd and 24th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

- ◆ **Spice Club Continues with Nutmeg!** Every month, a new take-and-make kit will be available, including one spice sample, recipes and tips for using the spice, and suggested cookbooks for using the spice that is available for checkout in our collection. Membership to Spice Club is open at the moment. You may call or stop by the Library to be put on the member list for any unclaimed packets.
- ◆ **Toddler Time continues! Hang out with us on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Library** for stories, music, dancing, busy bags, and more. Meet other parents and kids from the community, and learn about the various services and reading programs our Library offers. Our last Toddler Time of 2023 will be the 16th, and we will resume after the holidays in January.
- ◆ **Join us for after-school story times on Wednesdays at 2:15 p.m.!** We will continue to read intermediate stories together. Coloring supplies will also be available over the hour. We will take a break from November 15th until January for the holidays.
- ◆ **The Sweet Taste of Wayne annual event is November 3rd from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Taste desserts from each competitor and vote for your favorite in each category: Professional, amateur, and youth. Votes will be tallied at 7:30 p.m., with prizes awarded shortly thereafter. The entry fees will be used to fund the prizes with the remaining going to the Friends of the Library.
- ◆ **Adult Craft Night with Nicole will be on November 7th at 6 p.m.** Join us for a fun and eco-friendly evening of crafting with Nicole on November 7th at 6:00 p.m. In this session, we will be recycling an old book and transforming it into a cute turkey that will add a festive touch to your Thanksgiving decor. No prior crafting experience is necessary, and all materials will be provided. Don't miss out on this opportunity to unleash your creativity and make new friends!
- ◆ **Head to the back of the Library on Tuesday, November 14th at 6:00 p.m. for Adult Coloring.** Stop in for a relaxing night and good company. Colors, coloring sheets, and snacks are provided. The Endicott Family sponsors Adult Coloring.
- ◆ **After-school coloring will take place on Friday, November 10th at 3:30 p.m.** Relax and get creative after a busy school week. Adults will be on hand for conversation. Coloring pages, art utensils of all kinds, and a light snack will be provided. This is the last after-school coloring of 2023, but we will resume in January.
- ◆ **Work on your creative projects with our Needle Night group, on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. at the Library** Enjoy conversation and good company

while working on your needlework projects. All kinds of decorative sewing and textile arts and handicrafts are welcome.

- ◆ **Book Club will be returning for discussion on Tuesday, November 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library conference room.** This month's discussion book will be Station Eleven by Emily St John Mandel and The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood. Stop by the Library to check out copies of the books and join in the discussion!
- ◆ **Stop in for evenings of learning at the Library! November 16th and November 30th from 4:00 p.m.—to 6:30 p.m.** Join us as Wayne State College students present on different cultures, focusing on art and techniques. Following the presentation will be a hands-on chance to try these techniques. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to learn, connect, and have fun with members of our vibrant and diverse community!
- ◆ **Santa is coming to visit!** Stop by the Library on December 5th between 5:30-7:30 p.m. to enjoy a craft, a treat, and a chance to tell Santa your wishes for the holiday.

### WAYNE RECYCLING & TRASH CENTER (RTC) 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 ~ Over 15,000 Pounds of Electronics Recycled!!



Congratulations to our community for recycling 15,685 pounds of electronics last month, a 15% increase from 2022. We served 125 cars and raised \$3,000 to support our Zero Waste program, like paying to recycle light strings and more. Since 2013, our community has recycled 175,000 pounds of electronics. Your efforts help keep harmful materials out of our landfill. Thank you for making a difference.

We also give special thanks to the many people who helped make this event a success, including volunteers from the Wayne Green Team, and Wayne State College Men's and Women's Basketball teams; City of Wayne staff and police; our vendor, the Retrofit Companies; and the

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy for financial support.

**Recycle Strings of Holiday Lights.** As you decorate for the holidays, remember you can recycle light strings that no longer work. Collection bins are at the Wayne Recycling & Trash Center during regular hours: Monday and Friday, 9 a.m.—1:30 p.m.; Tuesday 11 a.m.—2 p.m.; and Saturday 8 a.m.—noon. The light strings will be recycled for its copper wire by Retrofit.

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).

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  
wblecke@cityofwayne.org

**YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT.**

**YOUR HOME**

