



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 16 —Issue 3
March, 2024

ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Why Energy Efficiency



The City of Wayne is committed to working with utility customers to maximize the value of their energy purchases in a cost-effective manner. To understand its importance in our future, we need to examine where energy efficiency began.

As intelligence evolved, energy efficiency included finding easier ways to get work done. For example, the invention of the wheel was an early advance in energy efficiency. Fire is the oldest major source of energy controlled by humans. Its earliest uses began with and grew from cooking to heating of dwellings, clearing land, baking pottery and casting metal. Controlled fires required a considerable amount of effort for gathering fuel, so efficiency arose in the use of fuel.

Around the start of the 18th century, fire powered the first steam engine. Its development was revolutionary since, for the first time, fire could produce mechanical work. It also gave rise to searching for ways to achieve higher efficiency. This scientific discipline eventually evolved into what we now call mechanical engineering.

Only a few decades later, practical use of electrical power emerged, and by the end of the 19th century, humans began to produce more and more electricity to power incandescent lights and motors. Shortly thereafter, the invention of innumerable small machines and labor-saving devices made electricity a ubiquitous commodity. By the beginning of the 20th century, energy consumption per capita was accelerating.

The 1973 "energy crisis" brought the realization that energy sources might not keep pace with mankind's ability to use energy. Energy efficiency as we know it today began and was called "conservation" with the concept of "Just Use Less." Congress established the Department of Energy in 1977 to diversify energy resources and promote conservation. The electric industry began to see efficiency as an energy resource whose avoided cost is less than building another power plant or procuring in the wholesale market to meet customer demand.

Efficiency programs began to yield market impacts beyond cost-effective energy savings. On March 15, 1992, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched the ENERGY STAR® brand to help customers recognize high efficiency options. Around the same time, performance contracting began to provide access to needed capital and services for building energy performance improvements.

Recognizing that efficiency provided benefits beyond just saving energy, utilities began ramping up programs shortly after the start of the current millennium. Non-energy benefits such as managing electrical demand, increasing electric grid resilience and reliability, creating jobs, advancing technology and reducing greenhouse gas emissions became apparent.

Electrification is also a form of energy efficiency. As cited in Forbes, on Nov. 9, 2023, "Transitioning from a fossil energy system to a fully electrified one could cut up to 40% of final energy consumption. In build-

ings, for example, Artificial intelligence-driven technologies can save up to 20% in a building's energy costs by combining building, weather, and user data to predict heating and ventilation demand. Load-shifting can also be automated to cool supermarket freezers down to a much lower temperature than required outside the peak demand hours. When peak demand periods occur, refrigeration is switched off and the freezers effectively operate like a battery storing energy." In homes, air-conditioning systems can be operated in a similar way to provide energy demand reductions during peak periods while still maintaining indoor comfort.

Going forward, efficiency will be increasingly recognized for its financial and strategic value. There is a renewed focus on getting the most economic value from each unit of energy. Renewable generation will continue to grow, as well as energy storage, demand management and re-using waste heat.

For years, your local public utility has been dedicated to safely generating and delivering reliable, low-cost, sustainable energy and related services, while providing outstanding customer service. For additional ideas on ways you can make cost-effective efficiency improvements to your home or business, contact your local electric utility for more information.

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CITY COUNCIL
MEETINGS
March 5th
March 19th

CITY HALL
OFFICE HOURS
City Hall office
Hours are:
7:30 a.m.
until 4:30 p.m.

**REMINDER TO
PET OWNERS**
**Remember to pick
up your dog's
waste — don't
leave it in parks
where kids play or
other private and
public areas!!**
**It's not only the
right thing to do—
it's the law!!**



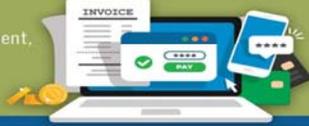
Department News ~



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WISE WORDS

“Your positive action combined with positive thinking results in success.”

~Shiv Kherra

Library ~



The Library will be closed March 1st for cleaning and March 31st for Easter!

- ◆ **The Herb Club offers monthly kits containing an herb sample, recipes, and tips for using the herb, as well as suggested cookbooks.** Herb packets are limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parsley is the herb of the month, with a community potluck planned in 2025 based on all the herbs for the year.
- ◆ **Adult craft night with Nicole will be on March 5th at 6:00 p.m.** We will be Creating St. Patrick's Day Keychains with Diamond Art.
- ◆ **Hang out with Miss Aleisha on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in the Library at Toddler Time.** Join Aleisha for puppet making on March 7th, Hatching Spring Chicks on March 14th, Spring Dress Up Dance Party on March 21st, and Balloon Waddle on March 28th.
- ◆ **Join us for after-school story times on Wednesdays.** The first Wednesday will have after-school story times at 2:15 p.m. After that, it will be every Wednesday at 3:30 — March 6th Sock Bunny, March 13th Story with Snack, March 20th Canvas painting, and March 27th paper roll craft.
- ◆ **Put your movie knowledge to the test and join us for a fun evening of trivia at Johnny Byrd's on March 8th at 7:00 p.m.** Bring your friends, enjoy some snacks, and compete for a chance to win a prize. Best dressed may also win a prize. Please register a team of 4-6 people by calling (402) 375-3135. We look forward to seeing

you there!

- ◆ **Head to the back of the Library on Tuesday, March 12th at 6 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 Night.
- ◆ **After-school coloring will occur on Friday, March 8th, and Friday, March 22nd, at 3:30 p.m.** Relax and get creative after a busy school week — March 8th Sock Bunny, March 22nd, Stencil Canvas Painting.
- ◆ **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 art handicrafts are welcome.
- ◆ **Teens and Tweens can join Aleisha for Lo-fi Friday on March 15th at 3:30 p.m.** This month's activity will be ping pong and cookie face.
- ◆ **Join us for our Library Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 16th, at 10 a.m.** Children participating will be divided by age groups, with the youngest going first. Friends of the Library generously sponsor this event.
- ◆ **Join Nicole for Basic Tech help stop in between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on March 19th.** Please stop in if you have questions about your devices or basic computer skills.
- ◆ **Book Club will be returning for discussion on Tuesday, March 26th at 6:30 p.m. in the Library conference room.** The book for this month's discussion is *The Courtship of Two Doctors*, a love story based on a collection of courtship letters between two senior medical students who met in 1937 and corresponded for two years. The book showcases the medical era before antibiotics and illustrates the social barriers of the 1930's challenging two-career marriages. All are invited to join the discussion.
- ◆ **Join the 2023 Adult Year-Long Alphabet Reading Challenge to earn prize tickets by reading books and completing bonus challenges.** Contact the circulation desk for more details or to sign up.
- ◆ **Our mini-exhibition will be on display in the hallway display case all month in March!** Check out all the hard work of our mini art exhibitors and vote for your favorite.
- ◆ **The WPL Friends Book & Resale Store, The Recycled Read, is open the first Saturday of every month at 110 Logan Street, Wayne, NE, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Donations are accepted during store hours and at the Library during regular business hours, but textbooks or encyclopedias will not be accepted. Poor-condition items may also be refused. Remember to enter from Logan Street due to snow piles.

**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 ~ Every day is Take Back Day in Nebraska



If you have unused, expired, or unneeded medications in your home, don't flush them down the toilet or throw them in the trash. You can safely dispose of these by taking them back to our local pharmacies in Wayne, U-Save and Providence Community Pharmacy. Doing so reduces the chance of accidental poisoning of children or pets and decreases potential contamination of surface or groundwater.

How does it work? Take your leftover medications to the pharmacy in the original bottle or container they came in. If they are acceptable non-controlled substances, the pharmacist will place them in a container to be shipped to an approved incinerator for disposal. If you have

controlled substances, the pharmacist will give you a special postage-paid envelope for safe return and disposal. You can also take back over-the-counter medications, liquid medications less than 4 ounces, pet medications, creams, lotions, and ointments. Since 2016, this program has collected more than 236,000 pounds of medication.

Thanks to the Nebraska MEDS program, pharmacies in nearly 300 communities across Nebraska can now take back most medications for safe disposal. For more info, talk to your local pharmacist or visit www.leftovermeds.com.

For more tips on the Green Path to the Good Life, like the Wayne Green Team on Facebook or visit www.cityofwayne.org/greenteam. Thank you for recycling right and supporting our Zero Waste efforts in Wayne!

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

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

