

City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 17 —Issue 12
December, 2024

ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Holiday Efficiency Savings



The cost of decking the halls, devouring delectable holiday treats, imbibing fine spirits and celebrating with family and friends over the holidays can really add up. Here are a few efficiency

ideas to lighten their impact on your finances, schedules and the environment.

Decorating

If you haven't already, switch to LED Christmas lights. LED Christmas lights last longer and only use about 10% of the electricity when compared to traditional, incandescent bulbs that produce the same amount of light. Pre-lit, fiber optic trees and decorations also use LEDs with the added benefit of being shatterproof, shock-resistant, and cool to the touch.

Use a timer for all holiday lights. Set it to automatically turn your holiday lights on and off at the appropriate times – typically on at dusk and off at bedtime. To safely control exterior lights around your home, use a weatherproof outdoor timer.

Consider decorations with few or no lights. Reflective ornaments, candles, ribbons and garland make the most of low-lighting conditions. They can be used throughout the house to decorate staircases, entryways, mantels or wherever else you want to add some holiday cheer.

When operating holiday lights, turn off room lights. This enhances the

holiday mood while providing sufficient lighting for most activities. Note that fireplaces also provide warm, ambient light. Just remember to close the flue when the fireplace is cold and not in use to ensure heat isn't escaping up the chimney.

Heating

When you have guests, turn down the thermostat and take advantage of the body heat they generate. Waiting until guests are too warm and then opening a window to cool down is very inefficient, especially if you forget to close the window afterward. If you are baking, turn the oven off when finished and leave the door open to circulate extra heat into the room.

For those who may feel a little chilled, add another layer of clothing or grab a blanket rather than turning the thermostat up. Considering this is the only time of the year you can get away with wearing your favorite ugly Christmas sweater or Santa hat, why not take advantage of the opportunity?

Cooking

While creating your culinary delights, keep the lid on pots and pans and the oven door closed. Food will cook faster and require less energy while cooking. Use a timer to prevent overcooking and the oven light to check on your food's progress. Remember, it takes about the same amount of energy to heat an oven full of food as it does a nearly empty one. When possible, bake several dishes at the same time.

For smaller cooking tasks, use

kitchen appliances like the microwave or toaster oven. Save the oven for larger and longer cooking projects like roasting a turkey or ham. Rather than grabbing a pot for tasks like melting chocolate, making cocoa or warming up leftovers, use the microwave to reduce energy usage by 50% or more.

Shopping

Give the gift of energy efficiency. When considering household appliances and electronics, look for the ENERGY STAR® label. ENERGY STAR-certified products use up to 60% less electricity than non-certified products. Visit www.energystar.gov for a list of qualified ideas to ensure your gift will save energy for years to come.

Shop locally. Not only will it save time and energy by not making an extended shopping trip, but it also helps support small businesses in your area. Are you more of an online shopper? Check out <https://buynebraska.com>, <http://grownebraska.org> and <https://fromne.com> for a huge selection of great gifts from retailers right here in Nebraska.

Your local electric utility wants to help you make the most of this holiday season! For more ideas on making your home or business EnergyWiseSM, contact them, or visit energywisenebraska.com for more information.

Inside this issue:

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

CITY COUNCIL

MEETINGS

December 3rd

December 17th



CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

City Hall office

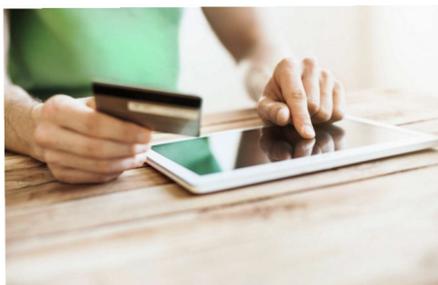
Hours are:

7:30 a.m.

until 4:30 p.m.

NOTICE

City Offices will be closing at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve), and be closed all day Wednesday, December 25th (Christmas).



Visit this URL:

<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/wayne>

Save Time....Pay Online!

Safe and secure, our online payment portal gives you access to your account 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Pay your bills from the convenience of your home or office.

- Pay with your smartphone or mobile device
- View real-time account balances, payment amounts and due dates
- View your consumption history
- Don't wait on hold - Pay via Phone: 866-366-9953



SCAN ME

Department News ~

Pay on our app.

We make it easy to pay your bill several convenient ways — 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



Pay via Phone:
866-366-9953



SCAN ME



WISE WORDS

“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment.”

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

RESIDENTIAL WINTER SEWER AVERAGING REMINDER

From November 15th until February 15th, the water usage for that time period is what will be used for averaging your sewer usage for one year — Use water wisely during this time!!

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

Library ~

• **Holiday Hours:**

Closing at 4:00 p.m. on December 24th (Christmas Eve)
Closed December 25th

Closing at 4:00 p.m. on December 31st and all day January 1st (New Year’s)

• **Stay & Play:**

Join Aleisha on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., except December 3rd. Enjoy music, dancing, and sensory activities; last week’s session features a New Year’s theme.

• **Circle of Friends:**

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. for individuals with cognitive disabilities to socialize.

• **Needle Night:**

Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. to work on needlework projects and enjoy conversation.

• **Mini Tree Decoration:**

Pick up a mini tree on December 3rd to decorate for display.

• **Santa Visit:**

December 3rd from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. with crafts and treats.

• **Cultural Night:**

December 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. featuring Scottish culture.

• **Adult Coloring Night:**

December 10th at 6:00 p.m. with supplies provided.

• **Journal with Jesse:**

December 14th at 11:00 a.m. to plan for the new year.

• **Basic Tech Night:**

December 17th at 6:00 p.m. for tech assistance.

• **Christmas Party:**

December 20th for all ages with Aleisha.

• **Puzzle Race:**

December 21st at 1:00 p.m. teams of up to 4 can register.

• **Youth Take n Make:**

Available December 26th with two ornament crafts.

• **Lantern Craft:**

December 28th at 11:00 a.m. for all ages.

• **Children’s Winter Challenge:**

Runs from November 21st to December 31st; earn Chamber bucks.

• **WPL Friends Book & Resale Store:**

Open the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; donations accepted.

Green Notes ~ 20,000 Pounds of Household Hazardous Waste Collected!!



Congratulations to our community for bringing 20,000 pounds of HHW to our collection event last month! That’s nearly double what we recycled at our previous event in 2021. Over 130 cars patiently waited in line as volunteers carefully checked and sorted the hazardous materials. Thank you to all those who waited to recycle right. The large turnout was a 65% increase from 2021.

Most of the hazardous waste consisted of paint, 74% of the total load. We also collected 1,700 pounds of batteries, twice as much as what we’ve collected all year at our Wayne Public Library drop off spot. Other hazardous materials collected include 962 pounds of pesticides, 890 pounds of oil, 415 pounds of aerosols, and 525 lightbulbs.

We thank Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development for choosing Wayne as their partner for the fifth time to host such an important event and keep hazardous materials out of the landfill.

If you missed our event, you can bring your HHW to the City of Norfolk’s Household Hazardous Waste Facility. This facility is at 610 E Monroe Ave in Norfolk and open Monday thru Friday, 7:30am to 5pm, and Saturday, 7:30am to noon. Only households are allowed to bring their HHW. Check the website for a list of acceptable items or call first with questions: [402-844-2231](tel:402-844-2231). Other disposal options for businesses are listed on the website.

Recycle Strings of Holiday Lights. This holiday season, remember to recycle light strings that no longer work at the Wayne Recycling & Trash Center during regular hours: Monday and Friday, 9am-1:30pm; Tuesday, 11am-2pm; and Saturday, 8am-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.

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**

