

# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

Volume 17 —Issue 11  
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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 burn-

ing, 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 making your home or business EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup>, contact them, or visit [energywisenebraska.com](http://energywisenebraska.com) for more information.

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### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 5th  
November 19th

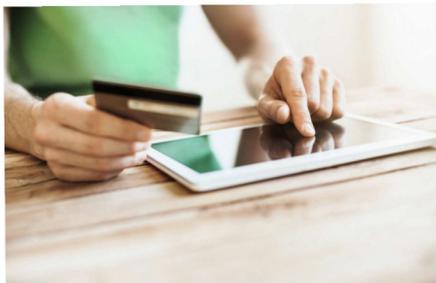


### CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

City Hall office  
Hours are:  
7:30 a.m.  
until 4:30 p.m.

### NOTICE

City Offices will be closed Monday, November 11th, in observance of Veteran's Day and also Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th, for the Thanksgiving Holiday.



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## Department News ~

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### WISE WORDS

*“Fight for things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.”*

—Anonymous

### 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!!

## Library ~

- The Library will be closed on November 27th (cleaning), 28th, and 29th (Thanksgiving).
- Join Stay & Play on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. for music, dancing and sensory activities.
- The Circle of Friends meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. for individuals with cognitive disabilities.
- Beyond the Bell with Ms. Aleisha is on the first and third Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m., featuring crafts.
- Toddler Time is Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., with themed activities each week.
- Needle Night meets Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. for creative sewing and textile arts.
- Adult Craft Night will meet on November 5th at 6:00 p.m. — you will create Book Turkeys for Thanksgiving.
- Cultural Night will take place on November 7th at 6:00 p.m. celebrating diverse cultures.
- Family Dinovember will take place on November 9th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. featuring dinosaur-themed activities.
- Adult Coloring Night is on November 12th at 6:00 p.m., with supplies provided.
- Teen Thanksgiving Hangout happens on November 15th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will include treats and games.
- Journal with Jesse on November 16th at 11:00 a.m. for holiday planning tips.
- Basic Tech Night is scheduled for November 19th at 6:00 p.m. and will offer tech support for devices.
- The Children’s Winter Challenge starts November 21st and runs until December 31st.
- After-School Coloring is on November 8th and 22nd at 3:30 p.m. and will feature themed projects.
- Book Club meets November 26th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss “Resurrecting Virgil” by Dorie LaRue.
- Pet Portrait Guided Painting with Jesse is on November 30th at 11:00 a.m.
- The Recycled Read resale store is open the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### 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 ~ 14,000 Pounds of Electronics Recycled in Wayne!!



Congratulations to our community for recycling 14,000 pounds of electronics at the Wayne Green Team’s 11<sup>th</sup> collection event in September.

We served 154 cars and raised \$2,800 to help support the Green Team’s Zero Waste programs and education. Since 2013, the community has recycled 188,000 pounds of electronics. These incredible efforts by our community help keep harmful materials out of the landfill to protect our soil, water, health, and more.

The Wayne Green Team gives special thanks to the many people who helped make this event a success, including nearly 50 volunteers from Wayne State College Men’s Basketball and Women’s Soccer teams; City of

Wayne staff and police; 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**

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

