

City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 18 —Issue 3
March, 2025

SEWER BACK-UP COVERAGE



You have homeowners' insurance coverage, but don't forget to **add a sewer backup rider** to your policy.

Who is responsible:

A reliable infrastructure system is a priority for the City of Wayne. However, a sewer is not a closed system and many things (tree roots, disposable diapers, vandalism, etc.) can clog the system. When a sewer backup occurs, the City of Wayne makes every effort to assist its customers. Since each situation has its own unique set of circumstances, the following information will help you understand responsibility and liability for damage from sewer backups:

- ◆ If the stoppage is in the City main, we will fix it as soon as possible. In most cases, the City's cleaning equipment can be used to restore the flow without digging to the sewer line. If the stoppage is in the private line connecting to the City main, we'll let you know so you can contact your plumber to fix it.
- ◆ Don't assume you are covered. Check your policy to make sure you are covered for damages due to sewer backups. You may need a special option for coverage, so talk to your insurance agent.
- ◆ Wayne is only responsible for its own property, not your line or the connection to the main. According to the law, the City cannot work on private property and public funds cannot be spent for private

purposes.

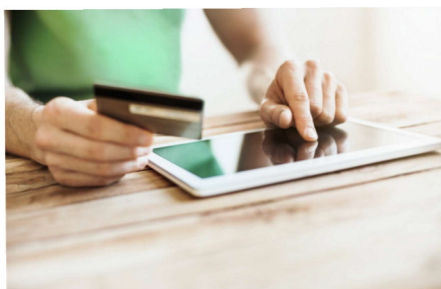
- ◆ The City of Wayne's insurance carrier can only reimburse you for damages if the backup is in the City main and we had advanced knowledge that there was a problem and we did not respond in a reasonable manner and time.

Steps to avoid a sewer backup:

- ◆ The best protection against sewer backup is a backflow valve or a check valve. They are required on all new sewer lines. If your home does not have a backflow valve, you can have your plumber add one to your line. The valve works by closing when water comes into it from the wrong direction, so it prevents sewage from backing up into your house. Once installed, clean the valve periodically to ensure it continues to work properly.
- ◆ Plant trees and large shrubs a minimum of ten feet away from sewer lines. Roots grow toward breaks or cracks in the line. When roots get inside the pipe, they clog it.
- ◆ Don't connect sump pumps, French drains, other flood control systems or roof gutters and downspouts to your sanitary sewer. The debris and silt will clog your line. These connections are illegal, so you will want to contact your plumber to undo them.
- ◆ Dispose of grease and fats with

your trash, not down the drain.

- ◆ Sometimes a blockage is sudden and caused by an object or material in the sewer main like a rug, bed sheet, plastic tarp, small boards, etc., that someone has forced into the system through a toilet or large floor drain with the clean-out cover open. City insurers seldom pay for these acts because the blockage was not the fault of the city but is a type of vandalism.
 - ◆ Sometimes a blockage is caused by a city utility action or failure to act. We have a regularly scheduled sewer jetting program for areas of the sewer system that prevent most problems. However, no underground sewer system or maintenance program can be perfect. In cases where city fault has been determined insurance companies have paid damage claims.
- Homeowners always have the option to file suit for damages. Many times the cost and time delay are more than the original damage.
- The cost of additional household coverage for sewer backups is usually modest. And, you may already have it. But, again, contact your insurance agent to verify you do have this additional coverage or obtain more information on adding this coverage to your policy.



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

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SCAN ME

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

March 4th
March 18th



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 ~

Library ~

- ♦ The Library will close for cleaning on March 8th and 9th and at 5:00 p.m. on March 14th for a staff meeting.
- ♦ Participate in the Adult Reading Challenge by reading a book set in each of the 50 states.
- ♦ Join "Coffee and Conversation" on the first Monday of each month at 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ "Seed Library" opens in March to borrow and donate seeds.
- ♦ "Stay & Play" for parents and children on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- ♦ The Circle of Friends meets every other Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. for individuals with cognitive disabilities.
- ♦ "Toddler Time" with Mrs. Aleisha on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., featuring stories and activities.
- ♦ "Needle Night" for creative projects on Thursday nights at 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ ¡Es Hora de Leer! Storytime in Spanish and English on March 2nd at 2:30 p.m.
- ♦ Adult Craft Night on March 4th at 6:00 p.m. to create St. Patrick's Day Gnomes.
- ♦ Adult Coloring Night on March 11th at 6:00 p.m., supplies provided.
- ♦ Basic Tech Afternoon on March 12th at 1:00 p.m. for tech assistance.
- ♦ Beyond the Bell with DIY activities on March 12th and 26th at 2:15 p.m.
- ♦ After-school coloring on March 14th and 28th at 3:30 p.m.
- ♦ Join Mrs. Aleisha for a "Wackadoo Party" featuring your favorite Animated Aussie Dog Family on March 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- ♦ "Walk & Talk Book Club" on March 18th at 6:00 p.m.; discuss "Always Remember" by Mary Balogh.
- ♦ Traditional Book Club on March 25th at 6:00 p.m., discussing "An Elderly Lady Is Up To No Good" by Helen Tursten.
- ♦ "Recycled Road" is open on the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WISE WORDS

"You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

~Winnie the Pooh

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 ~ Glass Recycling Makes a Ripple!



Since 2016, the City of Wayne has recycled over 500,000 pounds of glass through Ripple Glass, a Kansas City company that recycles glass to make bottles and fiber-glass insulation. The average American uses 80 pounds of glass every year, and all of it can be recycled endlessly, saving energy and raw materials. When our glass bunker at the Wayne Recycling & Trash Center (RTC) is full, a truck picks up the glass and takes it to Kansas City for free. Follow these tips to make a big ripple.

HOW DO I RECYCLE GLASS IN WAYNE?

Bring your clean and empty glass bottles to the marked bins at the RTC located at 110 Windom Street. Remove any plastic bags or cardboard as these cannot be recycled with glass. For your safety and to prevent contamination, do not place glass directly into the concrete bunker outside where it is crushed for transport.

WHAT GLASS IS ACCEPTED? Glass food and beverage containers (all colors and labels can stay on), drinking vessels (pint, wine, mason jars), candle jars (leftover wax is okay), cosmetic bottles/jars (no lids),

windows with frames & hardware removed.

WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTED? Ceramic, porcelain, milk glass, China/leaded glass, mirrors, laminated glass/windshields, Pyrex or Corningware, dishware, light bulbs, and plastic bags.

CAN I RECYCLE GLASS CURBSIDE? No. Private haulers do not accept glass in our curbside recycling. The only place you can recycle glass in Wayne is at the RTC.

SAVE THE DATE: Earth Day celebrations start April 4th with our annual chamber coffee at the Wayne Public Library, and April 6th with our free screening at the Majestic of *Rubber Jellyfish*, a film about the harm caused by releasing helium balloons into the air.

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

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YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT.

YOUR HOME

