

City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 18 —Issue 5
May, 2025

ROBOTIC MOWERS!



You know it's springtime when you hear certain sounds in the fresh morning air: the gentle rumble of an approaching thunderstorm, the soft buzzing of bees pollinating flowers, the singing of songbirds announcing their return . . . and that overzealous neighbor who always starts mowing before 7 a.m. on Sundays!

You know what that neighbor needs? A robotic mower. Most operate within the range of 55 to 60 decibels (dB). That's the average level of a conversation between two people speaking in a soft to normal voice. Your neighbor's gas-powered mower, like others, probably ranges between 90 to 100 dB. That's the same level of noise produced by hairdryers, blenders and motorcycles.

You could also tell your neighbor about the other great advantages robotic mowers have, including:

Time savings

Whether you're on vacation or doing projects around the house, robotic mowers operate autonomously, allowing you to set a schedule and forget about mowing. When the mower's battery is nearly depleted, the mower heads to its station for recharging, which usually takes one to three hours. Then it heads back to keep mow-

ing where it left off.

Less maintenance

The blades on a robotic mower should be replaced every two to three months. Other than that, occasionally clean the undercarriage, then check and lubricate moving parts, and you should be set. Compare that to the hassle of removing and sharpening blades and changing oil when relying on a gas-powered mower.

Healthier lawn

Because robotic mowers are designed to mow more frequently, clippings are smaller and decompose more quickly. Compared to mowing once or twice a week with a gas-powered mower, the robotic mower's reduced length of cut creates less stress to grass and helps to promote a healthier, denser lawn.

Efficiency and energy cost savings

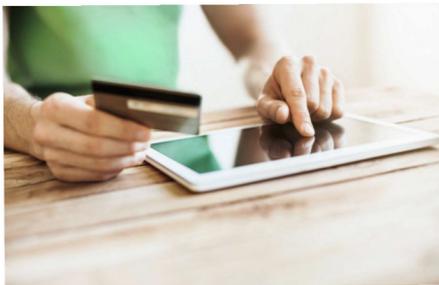
Consider the seasonal energy use and cost for mowing the average Nebraska lawn, which is reported to be 13,921 square feet according to Today's Homeowner, the #1 syndicated home improvement TV show in the U.S. Over the course of a seven-month mowing season, a randomly selected robotic mower clips the lawn every other day and consumes almost 62 kilowatt-hours

(kWh) of electricity. At last mowing season's average cost of 11.56¢ per kWh in Nebraska, the total is about \$7.14. In comparison, this size of lawn could be trimmed with a 21-inch, gas-powered mulching push mower every third day. By the end of the same seven-month mowing season, the push mower will have used 35½ gallons of gasoline and required 71 hours of someone's time to push it. If gas were \$3 per gallon, that comes to \$106.50. You can determine what 71 hours of free time is worth.

Safety

Cutting on slopes with push or riding mowers always presents a safety concern. Robotic mowers can typically mow slopes of 20-35 degrees, with some tackling even steeper grades. More advanced models have sensors that can detect obstacles and maneuver around them or even automatically stop the blades when the mower is lifted.

With a little luck, your neighbor's early morning lawn care routine will never disrupt your morning tranquility again. Who knows? By now, maybe you're interested in a robotic mower!



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SCAN ME

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 6th
May 20th



CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

City Hall office

Hours are:
7:30 a.m.
until 4:30 p.m.

NEW CITY HALL AND POLICE DEPARTMENT LOCATION

In May, City Hall will be relocating to 513 Main Street (Old Ameritas Building). There is a drop box in front and one in the alley for utility payments!



Department News ~

Library ~

- The Library will close early at 5:00 p.m. on May 16th for a staff meeting, closed on May 24th for cleaning and closed on May 26th for Memorial Day. Summer hours begin on May 25th, with Sundays being closed.
- 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. for socializing over coffee.
- Explore the Seed Library to borrow or donate seeds for gardening.
- Join Stay & Play on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for sensory activities for parents and children.
- Attend “The Circle of Friends” every other Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. for individuals with cognitive disabilities to socialize.
- Join “Toddler Time” on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. for stories and activities.
- Work on needlework projects at Needle Night on Thursday nights at 6:00 p.m.
- Attend “Adult Craft Night” on May 6th at 6:00 p.m. to create designs on tote bags.
- Challenge your TV Series Trivia knowledge on May 2nd at 7 p.m. at Johnnie Byrd's.
- Join “Beyond the Bell” on May 7th at 2:15 p.m. to make Sweet Treat Magnets.
- Enjoy After-School Coloring on May 9th at 3:30 p.m. and Adult Coloring Night on May 13th at 6:00 p.m.
- Attend a “Mental Health Event” on May 14th at 2:30 p.m. and “Basic Tech Afternoon” at 1:00 p.m.
- The “Walk & Talk Book Club” will meet on May 20th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss “Never Too Late” by Danielle Steel.
- The Traditional Book Club returns on May 28th at 6:30 p.m. to discuss “Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World.”
- Bounce into Summer on May 31st with a kick-off event from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. for the Summer Reading Program, featuring games and prizes.

Registration for the summer reading program is now open, both in person and via Google Forms.

The Recycled Road is open the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for donations. Textbooks and poor-condition items are not accepted. The Recycle read will also be open on May 9th from 2:00-6:00 p.m. and on May 10th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

WISE WORDS

“Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian.”

~Dennis Wholey

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

City Offices will be closed Monday, May 26th, for Memorial Day



Green Notes ~ Congrats to Refind & Refresh, our Zero Hero of the Year!



Last month, the Wayne Green Team presented Refind & Refresh with our Zero Hero award recognizing outstanding work in reducing, reusing, and recycling within the community of Wayne.

Owned and operated by Chele Meisenbach since 2023, Refind & Refresh is a consignment store specializing in used furniture and home décor. In just over two years, Refind & Refresh has successfully sold more than 3,000 items. Meisenbach also specializes in upcycling, transforming unwanted items into something of value, such as applying a fresh coat of paint to a dresser or creating art from broken lamp shades. She's known to visit the college during move out days or scavenge old farms and buildings to reclaim materials. Re-

find & Refresh is located at 104 West 2nd Street in Wayne and on Facebook.

Thank you, Refind & Refresh, for reducing waste and running a thriving business focused on reuse. Congratulations to Refind & Refresh and owner Chele Meisenbach for being a Zero Hero in our community!

Save the date for electronics recycling on Saturday, September 6th, 8:00 – 10:00 am, on 3rd Street between Lincoln and Pearl.

Join us at our next Green Team meeting Tuesday, May 13, noon, in the SNBuilding's 2nd floor conference room at 1010 Main Street.

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:

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YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT.

YOUR HOME

