

# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

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## MITIGATING RADON!



As a Cornhusker, we love being top-ranked in the nation. However, there's top ranking we need to be very concerned about: As per the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) 2023 report, Nebraska ranks third in the country for radon prevalence, with about 59% of the more than 8,500 radon tests in the state exceeding the EPA's action level of 4.0 picocuries per liter (pCi/L). Nebraska's average radon level was 6.0 pCi/L. After smoking, radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and is responsible for an estimated 21,000 deaths annually.

What is radon? It is an element and naturally occurring radioactive gas that forms when uranium, thorium, or radium breaks down in soil, rocks and water. Since the air pressure inside is usually lower than pressure in the soil around our homes, offices, schools and other buildings, it enters through cracks in floors, walls and construction joints, as well as through gaps around service pipes, electrical wires and sump pits. Your

home traps radon inside, where it can build up. Radon levels are usually highest in the basement or crawl space. Levels tend to be higher in the winter than in the summer. They can also spike during heavy wind, rain, or snowy weather.

It's easy to test your home's radon levels. You can hire a professional tester or do it yourself with a kit you buy at a hardware store or online. Start by contacting the Nebraska Radon Program at (402) 471-0594 or visit [www.dhhs.ne.gov/radon](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/radon).

If radon levels in your home are high, you can take steps to lower them. The most common and effective method is to have an active vent pipe system installed, which pulls radon from beneath the house and vents it to the outside. A small but efficient fan operates continuously to reduce radon levels 50 to 99%. Fortunately, Nebraska's ranks fifth in the nation for lowest residential electric rates (12.13¢ per kilowatt-hour). That means the small fan costs less than \$3

per month to operate. It's a small price for safety and well-being!

If you have an active system, you should check on a regular basis to make sure the system is working correctly. Most active systems have a manometer, which confirms proper operation. While fans may last for five years or more — manufacturer warranties tend not to exceed five years. At some point, they will require repair or replacement.

If you'd like more information about radon and what can be done to mitigate it, check out this EPA guidance, "[A consumer's guide to Radon Reduction](#)".

Your local utility is dedicated to providing the electricity needed to maintain your home or business safely, effectively and efficiently. To identify additional ways you can become "EnergyWise", contact your local utility.

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### **NEW DATES FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Monday, August 4th  
Monday, August 18th

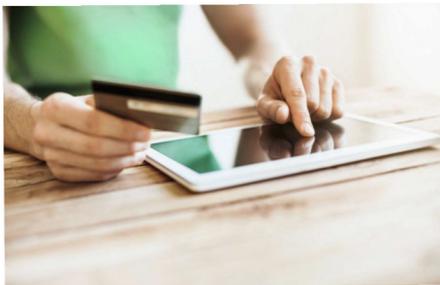


### **CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS**

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!!**



## 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

Visit this URL:

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



SCAN ME

## Department News ~

### Library ~

- To celebrate the end of the Summer Reading Program, there will be a Foam Party from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. This event is exclusively for Summer Reading program participants. Enjoy an evening of fun, dancing, and playful foam for all ages. Remember to bring a towel and a change of clothes, as you will get wet! We look forward to celebrating reading and community spirit with you!
- The Friends of the Wayne Public Library will have a Tea Party Fundraiser on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Freedom Park Shelter House. Join them for an elegant afternoon, all in support of the Wayne Public Library. Enjoy a selection of teas, lemonade, pastries, and more. All ages are welcome, and fancy dress is encouraged, but not required. Raffle tickets may be purchased in advance at the Wayne Public Library starting Au-

gust 4th. You do not have to be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$20 for 25 tickets, and entry at the door is \$10. Two quilts will be auctioned off in a silent auction.

- The Walk & Talk Book Club resumes on August 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Victor Park, featuring *A Dark & Secret Magic* by Wallis Kinney. Participants will listen to the book via Playaways or the Libby App. We will gather to walk the trail at Victor Park on the 19<sup>th</sup> and discuss the book at the Roosevelt Park Gazebo, where we will conclude after the walk. The meeting will be held at the Community Activity Center if the weather is poor." *A Dark and Secret Magic* is a captivating tale about Hecate "Kate" Goodwin, a hedge witch living a solitary life in a

cottage with her black cat. Her routine is disrupted when her sister, Miranda, asks her to host their coven's Halloween gathering, coinciding with Kate's birthday. As the pressure mounts, Kate's past reemerges with the arrival of Matthew Cypher, a man linked to forbidden magic. When Kate discovers an old tome with her deceased mother's handwriting, she confronts dark family secrets and must reassess her trust in those around her, especially Matthew. The story celebrates Halloween and the spirit of witchcraft year-round.



#### WISE WORDS

*"You create your own opportunities. Success doesn't just come and find you—you have to go out and get it!"*

~Anonymous

#### 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

**SCHOOL  
STARTS BACK  
IN SESSION  
THIS MONTH.  
DRIVE CARE-  
FULLY!!**



### Green Notes ~ New Location for Electronics Recycling Event—September 6th



The City of Wayne Green Team is hosting its annual electronics recycling collection event on **Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 8a.m. – 10 a.m.** (ends earlier if the truck fills up). It will be hosted at a **new location this year**, the FNBO parking lot located at 1100 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Wayne.

Bring your old TVs, computers, cell phones, printers, cords and more to recycle right and keep electronics out of the landfill, where they can become hazardous to our soil and groundwater. You can even bring VHS tapes, vacuums, blenders, toasters, and kitchen mixers. See our website for a full list of items accepted by our recycling vendor, the Retrofit Compa-

nies. Sorry, no large appliances, dehumidifiers, or batteries.

**Enter the FNBO Parking Lot from the west to unload your electronics and exit on the east end to 10<sup>th</sup> Street or Hillside Drive.**

**FEES:** Suggested donation of \$10 per carload or \$50 per business load of reasonable size. Fees for CRTs (tube) of \$5/monitor and \$10/TV (no charge for flatscreens); \$15/microwave.

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**

**306 Pearl Street**

**Wayne NE 68787**

[wblecke@cityofwayne.org](mailto:wblecke@cityofwayne.org)

**YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT.**

**YOUR HOME**

