



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

Volume 18 — Issue 9
September, 2025

ENERGYWISE TIP ~ REFRIGERANTS



As summer has heated up, it's great to know your home's air conditioning system can provide relief. It's also good to know you can find a cold beverage in your refrigerator to cool down with. That wouldn't be possible without the refrigeration process pioneered in 1834 by Jacob Perkins, who introduced the first commercially successful vapor-compression refrigeration system using ether.

For air conditioning systems, a refrigerant evaporates inside a coil and changes from a liquid to a gas. As it does, the refrigerant absorbs heat from inside your home and the system transfers it out. The amount of heat removed and how efficiently it is done depends in large part on the type of refrigerant used.

For nearly 200 years, the refrigeration industry sought to develop the perfect refrigerant that would be efficient, non-corrosive, non-toxic, and non-flammable, with no ozone depletion and global warming potential. However, the first air conditioners and refrigerators employed toxic or flammable gases, such as ammonia, sulfur dioxide, methyl chloride or propane that often resulted in fatal accidents when they leaked. Then, in 1928, Thomas Midgley Jr. created the

first non-flammable, non-toxic chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gas: Freon® (R-12).

However, by the mid-1970s, scientists discovered CFCs such as R-12, were causing major damage to the ozone layer that protects the earth from ultraviolet radiation. In the 1980s, this led to the adoption of hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) refrigerants like R-22. Compared to CFCs, HCFCs have a significantly lower potential to deplete ozone.

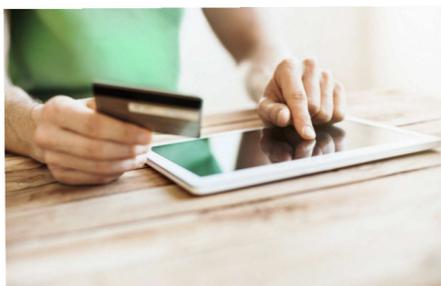
But in the 2000s, climatologists began to correlate the use of HCFCs to climate change. To address this concern, the American Innovation and Manufacturing Act of 2020 required transitioning to new refrigerants like R-32 and R-454B. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers classifies these refrigerants as "A2Ls".

Starting this year, newly manufactured refrigeration and air conditioning systems must employ A2Ls. When compared to older refrigerants, they provide environmental benefits, improved efficiency, faster thermal recovery and regulatory compliance. They also help homeowners avoid the increasing costs of retiring refrigerants.

Even still, don't feel you need to rush out to replace all of heat pumps, air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers. Existing equipment and the parts, including refrigerant, used for servicing and repairing them are not subject to the new regulations and can continue to be used through equipment end-of-life. The supply of R-410a and R-134a will still be available, as was the case in prior refrigerant transitions in the 1990s and early 2000s.

However, when you do find yourself in the market for a new refrigeration appliance, heat pump or air conditioning system, contact your local utility. They may have EnergyWiseSM incentives available to reduce the cost. Your local utility wants to help you get the most value from the energy they provide.

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.



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

Inside this issue:

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

NEW DATES FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, September 2nd
Monday, September 15th



CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

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

**City Offices will
be closed
Monday, September 1st for the
Labor Day Holiday**



Department News ~

Library ~

September is “Library Card Sign-Up Month.” Please contact Nicole Johnson, Adult Services/Public Relations, njohnson@cityofwayne.org (402) 375-3135. One Card, Endless Possibilities!!

Discover how a single card can open the door to endless opportunities.

With a library card, you can do more than check out books. From free classes and job resources to homework help, streaming media and events, today’s libraries connect communities to information, inspiration, and each other.

This year’s theme, “One Card, endless Possibilities,” is a reminder that libraries

are for everyone—no matter your age, background, or goals. Whether you’re diving into a new hobby, searching for your next great read, brushing up on tech skills, or helping your child succeed in school, it all starts with a library card.

At Wayne Public Library, you’ll find: EBooks, databases, tutoring, business resources, Playaways, audio books and much, much more!

Check out our Seed Library!

Programs and events for all ages—from Toddler Time and book clubs, to job search support,

Basic Tech Afternoon and more!

Getting a library card is free and empowering. For students, it’s a key to academic success. For adults, it’s a getaway to lifelong learning. For everyone, it’s a smart way to stay connected to your community.

Stop by the Wayne Public Library to sign up for your card today. Because with a Wayne Public Library card, the possibilities are truly endless.



WISE WORDS

“I have always been among those who believe that the greatest freedom of speech was the greatest safety, because if a man is a fool, the best thing to do is to encourage him to advertise the fact by speaking.”

~Woodrow Wilson

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 ~ Electronics Recycling Event September 6th!!



Don’t forget our annual annual electronics recycling collection event is Saturday, **September 6th, 8 a.m. – 10 a.m.** (ends earlier if the truck fills up). We are at a **new location this year**, the FNBO parking lot located at 1100 E. 10th Street in Wayne.

Enter the FNBO Parking Lot from the west to unload your electronics and exit to the east onto Hillside Drive.

Bring your old TVs, computers, cell phones, printers, cords and more to recycle right and keep electronics out of

the landfill. You can even bring vacuums, blenders, toasters, and kitchen mixers. See our website for a full list of items accepted by our recycling vendor, the Retrofit Companies. Sorry, no large appliances, dehumidifiers, or batteries.

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.

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

