



# City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne  
Utilities

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## ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Cleaning Your Refrigerator Properly



Your refrigerator is one of the top energy-using devices in your home, so keeping this large appliance running efficiently can help you reduce your energy bills and save you some cash! Cleaning your refrigerator properly can take a couple of hours, but you can also break this task up into smaller chunks if you don't have a weekend afternoon to dedicate to cleaning the fridge.

Reducing that energy bill doesn't just save you money – it's good for the planet! Most of our electricity comes from coal, so using less power also means burning less coal. You're saving money, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing demand for dirty coal all by spending an afternoon cleaning out that fridge. Not too shabby, right?

The average refrigerator accounts for almost 14 percent of the energy use in your home, and according to the Consumer Energy Center, just cleaning the coils can reduce the amount of energy that your fridge uses by up to 30 percent. Cleaning the coils is just one part of doing a real, thorough fridge-cleaning, but if you have time to only do one thing on this list, do that!

Check out our refrigerator-cleaning checklist, and try to clean your refrigerator twice a year to maximize energy efficiency.

**Important:** Before you start cleaning your fridge, roll it away from the wall and *unplug it*. This is especially important when you're cleaning out the coils – you don't want to get

zapped!

### 1. Cleaning the Coils

If you only do one thing on this checklist, do this! Roll the fridge away from the wall, and once you recover from how gross it is back there, use your vacuum's hose attachment to get all of the dust out of the coils. Some refrigerators have a panel in front of the coils, so if you don't see the coils right away, don't panic! To access coils behind a panel, just remove the screws holding it in place, remove the panel, vacuum out the space, and replace the panel.

### 2. Location, Location, Location!

Now that the coils are clean, you can push the fridge back against the wall, but you don't want it totally flush. Leave at least a few inches between the back of your refrigerator and the wall, so air can circulate better back there.

### 3. Cleaning out the Fridge and Freezer

Keeping your fridge and freezer too packed is annoying,

right? You can't find a thing! It turns out that this is also bad for energy efficiency. Cleaning out the rotten food from your fridge and making some extra space makes your life easier and allows air to circulate through the refrigerator better, improving efficiency. Did you know that where you store things in the fridge can help you reduce your food waste?

**Bonus:** Since you're pulling everything out anyway, this is a great chance to wipe down all of the shelves and drawers!

### 4. Keep it Uncluttered, But Not Too Empty

A not-too-packed fridge is great for efficiency, but if things are looking super sparse after you toss (or compost!) the food that's past its prime, you might want to fill in a bit. If you don't plan to hit the store in the next day or so, just put a few jugs of water in there. They help retain the cold when you open the refrigerator door.

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### CITY COUNCIL

#### MEETINGS

February 2nd

February 16th

### NOTICE TO WAYNE UTILITY CUSTOMERS

**City Hall is now open. However, we are still limiting the number of people into the building, as well as keeping the 6 feet of distance between the public.**

**We are still encouraging utility payments be made by using the City's on-line bill pay services or by calling (402) 375-1733 to pay by debit/credit card. Checks and cash (to closest dollar amount) can still be dropped off in the two drop boxes located in the front and back of City Hall.**

**Thank you!!**



## Department News ~



**DISCOVER A NEW WAY TO PAY!**

Paying your bill has never been easier and you've never had more options!

- Access real-time account information and consumption history
- Pay via phone, text, website, or mobile app
- Make a one-time payment, schedule a payment, or sign up for auto pay
- Receive payment reminders



Learn More

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



download our iOS or Android app

MyCivic Utilities



**WISE WORDS**

*“The difference between school and life? In school, you’re taught a lesson and then given a test. In life, you’re given a test that teaches you a lesson.”*

*~Tom Bodett*

## Community Activity Center ~

The Community Activity Center has a new Website:

<http://cac.cityofwayne.org>

You can create an account (if you have a current membership at the Activity Center, you already have an account set up). The website is smooth, efficient, and user friendly!!

It allows you to:

- ◆ Manage your CAC account;
- ◆ View facility check-ins;
- ◆ View your purchase history;
- ◆ Sign up for new memberships;
- ◆ Register for youth and adult league; and

◆ View facility rentals and availability, and rent out facilities online.

You can also receive email and/or text updates regarding your membership and facility closings, etc.!!

Please call the CAC for questions/assistance at 402 375-4803.

**REMEMBER RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS!!**

**This is the last or the third month of water usage which will be used to determine what your sewer average will be on March 1, 2021!!**

**Please continue to monitor your usage wisely!!**



## Green Notes ~ Beeswax Wraps Make a Buzz!



Looking for an alternative to plastic wrap for food so you can cut down on single-use disposable waste at home? Give beeswax wraps a try and you'll be buzzing with excitement. These reusable coverings are a great alternative to plastic wrap and do a better job of keeping food fresh. They are made of beeswax, jojoba oil, tree resin, and either cotton or cotton and hemp fabric. These ingredients have preservative properties to help food last longer, thereby reducing food waste. And beeswax wraps decrease household waste overall by taking the place of plastic bags, disposable containers and plastic wrap. After about a year of use,

you can compost the wraps. Our local shop, The Flower Cellar, sells them in Wayne, so you can check them out in person. Give beeswax wraps a try and you'll see what all the buzz is about.



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:

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

