



City of Wayne Newsletter

City of Wayne
Utilities

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ENERGYWISE TIP ~ Cooling System Tune-Ups

With summer coming, Nebraskans are about to use around 10% of their average home's energy needs in a few short months. Yes, it's air-conditioning season again!

Many only consider the status of their cooling system when it becomes stuffy inside and they flip the switch on their thermostat from "HEAT" to "COOL." If cold air blows out, they don't give it another thought so long as they stay cool through summer. But what if there was a way you could save considerable energy, prolong the life of your central air-conditioning equipment and qualify for an EnergyWiseSM rebate to reduce costs?

The solution simply involves contacting a NATE-certified Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) technician to perform a cooling system tune-up on your equipment. NATE stands for North American Technician Excellence, which is a testing and certification organization recognized throughout the HVAC industry.

Typically, tune-ups on previously neglected cooling systems that have been neglected can provide 5 to 15% energy savings or more. According to *homeadvisor.com*, a tune-up will cost from \$75 to \$200. However, local electric utilities supporting EnergyWiseSM energy efficiency programs will provide a \$30 incentive on tune-ups.

At a minimum, any technician conducting a tune-up should:

Clean the condenser coil in the outdoor unit – Outdoor condenser coils become dirty over time and are also easily bent. This reduces heat transfer

through the coil and causes a cooling system to operate longer to cool the home. An HVAC technician will clean the outdoor condenser coil using commercial-grade cleaning products and use a tool called a "fin comb" to align the coil fins into nearly original condition.

Check the refrigerant charge – Performance and efficiency of your air conditioner is greatest when the refrigerant charge exactly matches the manufacturer's specification. If your system is low, the HVAC technician will add just the right amount to optimize performance.

Clean the indoor evaporator coil – The indoor coil is inside your furnace or ductwork. Even if you regularly change furnace filters, dust, allergens and airborne particles can accumulate on its fins and dramatically reduce efficiency. While the scope of most tune-ups does not include cleaning this coil, the technician will check to assure significant build up has not occurred.

Check the fan belt and lubricate the motor – Over time, belts crack and signal their impending failure. Some fan motors require occasional oiling to lubricate moving parts and reduce premature motor failure. The technician will assess the condition of the belt and lubricate any parts requiring oil.

Blow out the drain line – Condensate drain lines are continuously moist during the cooling season. If water does not flow through the drain line properly, mold, mildew and fungus can consequently develop and obstruct or block the

condensate drain line. The condensate pan can then become filled with water and will eventually overflow.

Visually inspect the system – The HVAC technician's trained eye will identify any external problems with your system for further rectification.

Discuss proper operation – The HVAC technician can discuss proper control sequences to assure heating and cooling systems do not operate simultaneously, and how to optimize operation for efficiency and comfort.

Discuss/review proper temperature set-back – If you are unsure how to program your thermostat to automatically adjust settings, the HVAC technician can demonstrate this process for you.

Filter Service Schedule – In addition to discussing the quality and effectiveness of various filters, the technician can help identify how often it should be changed. Some homes need this monthly, while others may get by with the same filter for six months or longer. According to the Department of Energy, replacing a dirty, clogged filter with a clean one can lower your air conditioner's energy consumption by 5 to 15 percent.

Your local electric utility has information on additional ways to efficiently use the energy they provide while keeping your home comfortable. Visit with your local electric utility to learn more.

Inside this issue:

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

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

May 3rd
May 17th

CITY HALL OFFICE HOURS

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

CITY SIREN SIGNALS

Fire Alarm Siren: This is a high/low tone and will operate in daytime hours

Tornado Siren: This will be a single high tone siren for 3 minutes.

Tornado Shelter
City Auditorium at 3rd & Pearl Street & East Park
Restrooms



Department News ~



**DISCOVER A
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WISE WORDS

“A business is like an automobile, has to be driven, in order to get results.”

—BC Forbes

Library ~

WE WILL BE CLOSED May 29th and 30th in observance of Memorial Day. Summer Hours begin after Memorial Day. We will be closed on Sundays during the summer season.

Nebraska Public Media, in partnership with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Nebraska Statewide Arboretum and the UNL Bee Lab, is encouraging events that celebrate bees, pollinators and native plants. This initiative is supported by PBS NATURE and HHMI Tangled Bank Studies. **Join the Wayne Public Library on Tuesday, May 17th at 6:00 p.m. in a screening of the documentary *My Garden of a Thousand Bees*, and join us for a wildflower planting demonstration.** *My Garden of a Thousand Bees* follows acclaimed wildlife filmmaker Martin Dohrn, who, locked down by coronavirus, turns his lenses on the surprising and

spectacular bees living in his own urban garden in Bristol, England. **Receive a free packet of wildflower seeds to create your own wildflower garden.**

Our first Thrifts & Gifts sale will take place May 20th! It is an outdoor parking lot thrift, craft, art, and wares sale open to the public. We are still open to vendor sign-up! **DATES: Fridays: May 20, June 10, August 5, and September 16th. Time of the sale: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Call 402-375-3135 to reserve your spot to vend.** Sign-up is free! Space is limited. There is no admission fee for shoppers. Call the Library for more info

Summer reading program kick-off takes place on June 25th. Join us for Magician Jeff Quinn on May 25, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in the Wayne City

Auditorium. This 40-45 minute show is full of fishy tricks, boatloads of jokes, and messages that promote reading and books like “One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish, and Treasure Island.” Expect audience participation and family-friendly humor! For more info, stop by the Library or give us a call at [402-375-3135](tel:402-375-3135).

See our specific Summer Reading Program calendar, available at the circulation desk, for more details on both youth and adult programming starting at the end of May/beginning of June.



May is Pet Registration Month

City ordinance requires that all dogs over 6 months of age and cats over 16 weeks of age within the City be licensed annually on or before May 31st of each year. Proof of rabies shot is required. Fee is \$6; after May 31st, fee is \$21.



Green Notes ~ Congrats to Thrift Warehouse, our Zero Hero of the Year!



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

Thrift Warehouse opened in 2016 selling used household goods and then started selling used clothes on consignment. Thrift Warehouse takes in an average of 5,000 pieces of clothing each month for resale. They also recycle whatever possible, including cardboard, glass, and paper. They do not buy any new bags, but reuse whatever comes into the store through donation. They refer children's clothing to Micah's Closet in Wayne, and if bedding comes in that isn't fit for use, it is donated to dog rescues.

Thrift Warehouse has made a big impact reducing

waste in our community by leading secondhand use of clothing, household goods, and more. Thank you for being a Zero Hero in our community!

Save the date for electronics recycling. Our annual electronics recycling event returns on Saturday, September 24, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., on 3rd Street between Lincoln and Pearl.

Join us at our next Green Team meeting Tuesday, May 10, 5-6 p.m., for a special presentation on Eco-Lawn Care 101 to learn about environmentally friendly ways to care for your lawn, such as how to water your lawn efficiently and reduce weeds. This meeting will be in the SNBuilding Gym 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:

Wes Blecke

306 Pearl Street

Wayne NE 68787

wblecke@cityofwayne.org

YOUR CHOICE. YOUR RIGHT.

YOUR HOME

