



OUR EARTH

Our Town, Our Future

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Your City in Action

No Idling Campaign

Idling a vehicle for more than 10 seconds, except in traffic, wastes money and harms the earth.

The City of Hailey is partnering with the ERC and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality on an Air Pollution Prevention Program. Signs asking motorists to help improve air quality by turning off engines have been posted at city properties throughout town. Local businesses, such as coffee shops and day cares, are being asked to partner with us by also posting signs.

It is a common belief that idling for just a few minutes is better than turning your car off and on numerous times a day. However, it is worse! Since the introduction of electronically controlled engines it is unnecessary to warm up your car.

Idling produces incomplete combustion which creates fuel residue condensation on cylinder walls while also contaminating engine oil and clogging spark plugs, which further increases fuel waste. Excessive idling can also cause water condensation in the exhaust system, which can cause premature corrosion.

All of these damages result in reduced engine efficiency and increase fuel consumption. So actually, letting your car idle costs you more than turning it off and restarting it.

Find out how your business can obtain a sign by calling Hailey Public Works at 788-9830, ext. 17.

Events

Arbor Day

“Planting the Seeds of Tomorrow for Today” is the theme of this year’s National Arbor Day set for April 27, 2007. In keeping with that theme we encourage

you to read President Roosevelt’s 1907 Arbor Day Proclamation to school children of the U.S at <http://www.idahoforests.org/arborday.htm#02>.

Earth Day

“Rising concern about the environmental crisis is sweeping the nation’s campuses with an intensity that may be on its way to eclipsing student discontent over the war ... A national day of observance of environmental problems is being planned for next spring... when a nationwide environmental ‘teach-in’ ... coordinated from the office of Senator Gaylord Nelson is planned....” Gladwin Hill, *New York Times*, November 30, 1969.

Senator Nelson began to formulate the idea for Earth Day over a period of seven years prior to the first event. He was disturbed that the state of the environment was not noticed by the political establishment but degradation was appearing everywhere. Nelson’s speaking tours were an attempt to educate the public and bring political awareness to the problems the environment faced.

The 2007 Earth Day falls on Sunday, April 22. Make an effort to make a difference. Plant a tree; run your errands on a bike or on foot; purchase recycled-content paper goods; replace an incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb; research composting; take advantage of the curb-side recycling the City of Hailey offers. Above all, remember Margaret Mead’s command: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever does.”

Clean Sweep Day

Save the Date – May 19, 2007 – More to come in next month’s edition on the valley’s largest environmental effort and how Hailey is involved.