



# OUR EARTH

*Our Town, Our Future*

October  
2007  
Issue No. 7

## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

### **Reuse Fall Leaves In Your Yard**

- Shred the leaves with a mulching mower (or a mower with the bagger removed) and let them stay on the grass. These shredded leaves will provide a protective winter cover and decompose by spring.
- If you have lots of leaves, you'll need to mow often during the weeks with the heaviest leaf fall.
- Pick up leaves with your bagging mower. The mower will shred the leaves as it picks them up, creating great mulch. Use the leaf mulch in your gardens or flower beds.
- Add shredded or whole leaves to your compost pile. Shredded leaves will decompose faster, but whole leaves will also break down into nutrient-rich compost. Mixing fall leaves with over-ripe fruit and vegetables and grass clippings will help the material decompose more quickly.

*(Info borrowed from [spencercountyrecycles.com/yard-waste.html](http://spencercountyrecycles.com/yard-waste.html))*

## Energy Conservation

### **10 Projects to Snug Up Your House**

Conserving energy reduces waste and lowers energy prices while cutting pollution from enlarged power plants. Before spending money on a new furnace (or air conditioner) consider tightening up your home first.

1. Check out this site for a do-it-yourself energy audit: [www.idahopower.com/pdfs/energycenter/AuditChecklist.pdf](http://www.idahopower.com/pdfs/energycenter/AuditChecklist.pdf).
2. Caulk and seal every hole that penetrates the house (chimney, fireplace damper, windows, plumbing, pipes, electrical outlets on outside walls, etc.).
3. Insulate your living space from all un-insulated spaces (attic, basement, crawl space or foundation) and the heating ducts running through unheated spaces.
4. Add weather stripping around doors and windows.
5. Set your thermostat to between 65 - 70 degrees

during the hours you are in the house and turn the heat down to 55 - 60 at night when everyone is in bed or gone.

6. Install a programmable thermostat so the house is warm when you return home or when you get up in the morning.
7. Keep doors to unused rooms, and cabinets and closets on outside walls closed.
8. Make sure furniture and curtains are not obstructing the hot air coming from air vents or radiators.
9. Clean or replace furnace filters regularly for more efficient air flow.
10. Open drapes to the south and west during the day for passive solar heating.

*Visit our website for more ways to tighten up your homes and lessen your heating costs! [www.haileycityhall.org/finance/ClimateCom.asp](http://www.haileycityhall.org/finance/ClimateCom.asp)*

## Public Transportation

### **Ride the Free Hailey Bus Service**

Mountain Rides (formerly KART/Peak Bus and Wood River Rideshare) and the city of Hailey are pleased to announce FREE bus service within Hailey city limits, beginning October 1, 2007. This pilot program will allow Hailey residents to leave their cars at home, reducing the carbon footprint of the community and providing a convenient way to travel within city limits.

Bus riders wishing to utilize this new, free service are encouraged to study the Peak Bus schedule found at various locations throughout the valley. Any stops labeled "H" (for Hailey) are applicable for this free service.

Riders traveling north or south beyond the city of Hailey stops will be required to pay the normal fare, depending on their destination. Information on rates and discount passes can be found at [www.wrrs.org](http://www.wrrs.org), and a printer-friendly version of the Peak Bus map can be found at [www.kart-sunvalley.com](http://www.kart-sunvalley.com).