



# OUR EARTH

*Our Town, Our Future*

December  
2007  
Issue No. 9

## City Business

### Climate Protection Efforts Achieve Positive First-Year Results

In early November, Mayor Susan McBryant attended the U.S. Mayor's Conference held in Seattle. A remarkable resource was made accessible to the City of Hailey through that effort. Conference speakers impressed upon city leaders the importance of municipal government as the form of government most accessible to its constituents and potentially the most effective in addressing many important issues.

The conference focus was on climate protection. Representatives from many of the 726 cities whose mayor's have signed the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement were present to learn practical steps toward meeting their pledge to reduce their community's greenhouse gas emissions to levels below those emitted in 1990.

The work to achieve this goal has been pursued by the City of Hailey since February of this year and has already produced some significant reductions. Reductions that have been monitored and calculated by the Climate Protection Committee include:

- 256 pounds of lead was diverted from the waste stream through recycling the city's discarded electronics in a partnership led by the ERC, local communities, and Idaho Solid Waste that established the recycling of old electronic devices at the Ohio Gulch landfill.
- 100 pounds of CO2 per light/per year will be saved by the replacement of old light bulbs in city offices with CFLs (compact fluorescent lights).

- 13% reduction in the disposal of solid waste is realized by replacing virgin office paper with 30% post consumer recycled paper of the same quality.
- \$760 saved on the city's summer utility billing through a change from 3 to 2 color printing on recycled paper.
- 9.3% reduction in kwh has been achieved from March-October due to conscientious turning off of unused lights and electronics in municipal offices.

**Special City Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 20, 2007**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**City Hall Meeting Room**  
*Discussing climate protection and sustainability issues.*

- 10% reduction in therms used by municipal buildings from March-September in comparison to the same months last year.

A special Hailey City Council meeting will be held on December 20, 2007 at 5:30 p.m., during which many issues related to sustainability will be discussed. Primarily, a Hailey

Comprehensive Plan section entitled Environment will be discussed and potentially adopted as a new comprehensive plan component. Other agenda items include:

1. Presenting information to the City Council about building development standards and how cost-saving energy efficiency can be achieved in new buildings
2. Discussion of implementing a construction waste recycling program through Hailey's Rubbish Franchise Agreement.
3. Amendment of Hailey City Standards to include bike rack standards, with proposed incentives to businesses to include bike racks for their customers.
4. Proposed amendments to personnel and internal practices policies to include Sustainability Policies.



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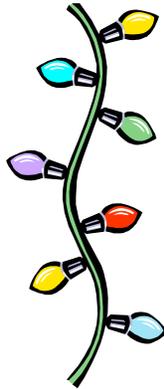
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## Energy Conservation

### **Eight Ways to Rein in Your Holiday Energy Bills**

Each January we begin the new year with a bigger than average pile of post-holiday bills to pay. To make sure holiday energy costs don't add to that daunting stack you face, pick two or more of these easy, energy-wise tips to help make you and your holidays a bit richer.

- If you are replacing or adding strings of lights this holiday season, save up to 99% of the electricity to run them by buying LED (Light Emitting Diode) strings. LED lights can be purchased at LL Greens and Chateau Drug.
- Make sure to consider the energy used by your new holiday decorations BEFORE you buy them. A string of 'icicle' lights have more lights per linear foot because they have lights going vertically and horizontally. Many beautiful decorations can be enjoyed all day long and never need electricity. Buy accordingly.
- Put your lights on outdoor timers so they only turn on in the evening and set them to turn off automatically when you go to bed. Operate the lights for no more than 6 hours a day. Leaving lights on night and day will use four times the energy and create four times the pollution as just the evening hours. (Several types of timers are available at local hardware stores and Kings.)
- While enjoying a cozy fireside evening, turn your thermostat down to 50 or 55 degrees so that furnace-heated air is not flying up your chimney with the smoke. Also make sure that the fireplace flue and doors are closed when the fire is not in use.



- Remember to think about the energy required to run your gifts during their lifetime and consider buying more gifts that are not battery or outlet powered. Always look for Energy Star electronics when buying that new computer, new lights, a new refrigerator, etc.
- Unplug the video games and your TV and read some favorite holiday stories, enjoy holiday games and puzzles or some good conversations over hot chocolate. Give the gift of time to your family while saving energy and money.
- Make a New Year's resolution to seal up air leaks and install adequate insulation to increase the comfort of your indoor space and reduce home heating costs and air pollution by up to 20%. The new year is a great time to reassess your power consumption, recommit to energy efficiency practices and rejoice in the savings.
- Turn lights off after the holiday season and only light them up for special occasions during the remaining winter months.

**Phone book recycling has come to Hailey!!!**

A phone book recycling bin has been set up at the Hailey Park and Ride lot until December 18<sup>th</sup>, courtesy of Names and Numbers. Let's show our enthusiasm for this aspect of recycling by purging all of the old books from our drawers, cupboards, under phones and car seats. Please be certain not to toss anything but the phone books. If you have other recycling questions, phone Clear Creek Disposal at 726-9600.



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## Rewards & Recognition

### 2008 Energy Savers Competition Seeks Local Contestants

Five Hailey residents will be making New Year's resolutions this year that the whole valley will get to hear about. These five individuals, couples, or families will be competing to increase their energy and resource efficiency the most through small or large changes in their homes and lifestyles. Scoring and successes will be tracked for the five competitors through this newsletter and local papers so that we can all enjoy their progress and learn the best energy saving tips through their experiences.

Focus the Nation Civic Group and the City of Hailey Climate Protection Committee have teamed in sponsorship of this contest. Focus the Nation is a group of local residents and business people organizing efforts to inform the community about energy and climate concerns.

Contestants must be willing to participate for an entire year and be truly committed to seeing their energy bills go down while sharing their methods and experiences through careful record keeping and monthly interviews.

If you would like to be considered for a contestant, fill out the form at right and send or drop off to:

City of Hailey  
ATTN: Climate Protection Committee  
115 Main St. S, Suite H  
Hailey, ID 83333

You may also email us the information asked for in the form. Send to the Hailey City Clerk at [heather.dawson@haileycityhall.org](mailto:heather.dawson@haileycityhall.org).



### Become Hailey's 2008 Energy Star!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Residence (apartment, condo, house or town home): \_\_\_\_\_



Why are you interested in joining this competition? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why would you be our best choice for a participant? \_\_\_\_\_

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