

Our Town, Our Home

City of Hailey

Visit us online at: www.haileycityhall.org

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Message from the Mayor

State of the City Summary

Last month we issued a summary of Mayor Burke’s State of the City report made to the city council in January. We will utilize this column this month and next to give some of the detail from each city department pertaining to progress made and new initiatives launched.

Below is a table comparing Hailey Police Department activity in 2020 to 2019 activity. Note, the distracted driving data at the bottom of the chart compares the months of January 2020 to January 2021. Per state law, no distracted driving citations were allowed to be issued July 1-Dec 31, based on a new state law that replaced Hailey’s local law which was in force the first half of 2020. In January 2020, a cell-phone sting was conducted which resulted in several distracted driving citations and even more education on the perils of cell phone use while driving.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Calls for Service	7,451	8,461	+1,010
Traffic Stops	2,449	3,141	+692
Citations Issued	1,112	907	-205
Arrests	366	359	-7
DUI	50	35	-15
Reports Written	803	766	-37
Traffic Collisions	183	110	-73
Total	986	876	-110
Jan 1st – Feb 14th; Citations Issued			
2019 – 68	2020 – 164	2021 – 125	
Jan 1st – Feb 14th; Distracted Driving			
2019 – 0	*2020 – 36	2021 – 30	

Hailey Police Department Initiatives

Traffic Enforcement

- Traffic enforcement continues to be our primary complaints and concern.
- Emphasis is on quality over quantity, keep red & blues rolling – enforcement occurs.
- Future staffing plans for a dedicated Traffic Officer.

Case Follow-Up/Follow-Through

- Resolving cases is a mark of department success which needs attention.
- Ensure paperwork, case flow, body camera videos are flowing as they should.
- Follow through with victims and Prosecutor in some matters, and transition to new software in all.

Salaries & Fleet

- Our goal is to have salary and benefit schedules competitive with neighboring agencies.
- Reviewing “out-of-the-box” ways to reward officers while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Finish Implementation & Training of CentralSquare

- A new software program is under implementation county-wide.
- Train HPD Personnel to proficiency in the software.
- Ensure uninterrupted paperwork flow.

Community Involvement and Relations

- Transparency and updates via social media.
- Implement programs while being mindful of the COVID-19 climate, such as Coffee with a Cop, Neighborhood Watch, and efforts.

Continue to Build Partnerships with Local Non-Profits

- Establish and maintain relationships and assistance with NAMI, Advocates, Hunger Coalition, Senior Connection, St. Luke’s CCH, etc.
- Work with NAMI to train all Officers in Crisis Intervention Techniques (CIT).
- Introduce all officers to local community resources.

Hailey Public Library March Events

Follow us for more information:

www.HaileyPublicLibrary.org.

www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary.

www.instagram.com/HaileyPublicLibrary.

Facebook Live Story Time, Wednesdays 10:30 AM

An interactive story hour made especially for preschool aged children full of songs and stories. Join us on our Facebook page to listen in: <https://www.facebook.com/HaileyPublicLibrary/>

Polly Bemis: Life and Times of a Chinese Pioneer - Thursday, March 4, 5:30 PM A virtual presentation about a remarkable but widely romanticized woman with historian Dr. Priscilla Wegars, author of a new biography. kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org

Zoom Library Reads Book Club - Tuesday, March 9, 5:30 PM Join us on Zoom for a virtual book club on *Weather* by Jenny Offill. Hired by her famous podcaster mentor to answer letters from increasingly polarized fans, a librarian who has acquired her education from a lifetime spent reading struggles between the limits of her knowledge and growing crises in the outside world. RSVP to laura.primrose@haileypubliclibrary.org

Board Meeting - Wednesday, March 17, 5:45 PM Have questions or suggestions for the library? Come to our monthly board meeting. The meeting is open to the public for in-person attendance or via web access. Please join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

Pruning Young Trees with Purpose and Skill - Thursday, March 18, 5:30 PM Learn how to properly prune young trees to create trees with strong branches with expert local arborists Linda Ries and Stephanie Cook in a virtual presentation. RSVP to kristin.fletcher@haileypubliclibrary.org

Growing Food at Home - Thursday, March 25, 5:30 PM 5B Resilience Gardens' Manon Gaudreau and Amy Mattias teach ways to integrate food production into your home, including edible landscape, container gardening, seed saving, food sharing, and food

Hailey Public Library Receives COVID-Related Funds

During the COVID-19 crises that plagued 2020, the Hailey Public Library benefited greatly from state and federal programs, as well as the generosity of local foundations. This funding helped offset substantial impacts caused by the pandemic.

1. Through a federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grant managed by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICfL), HPL received a significant upgrade to its internet capability. The grant helped extend distance and improve stability of the exterior wi-fi connection and provided/installed a brand-new server, all with a 5-year service guarantee.

2. In July, HPL received another \$7,446 CARES grant, distributed through the Idaho Humanities Council, which allowed purchase of hard to find sanitizing supplies; recording equipment to improve virtual children's and adult programming; and \$5,500 to grow our popular virtual collection.

3. A \$1,000 Mini-CARES grant, managed by ICfL, funded the purchase of 10 mobile hotspots available for check-out for up to two weeks. The hotspots proved popular and effective for online school, as well as for recently relocated families, to transitional housing with no internet service.

4. Local foundations rose to challenge, too, and gave generously. The Spur Foundation gave HPL \$5,000 to help meet our greatest need which staff identified as further expanding our electronic book collection. The Wood River Women's Foundation also addressed HPL's greatest need. Their funds of \$8,515 were used to buy Chromebooks and an annual hotspot data subscription which supported students and other members of our community who lack computers and internet access.

"We especially appreciated that our local nonprofits immediately recognized the unprecedented nature of the pandemic," stated Director Lyn Drewien, "They made it possible for the Library to transition smoothly to offering remote services and a robust virtual collection to our community."

Message from the Mayor

State of the City *(continued from Page 1)*

PUBLIC WORKS

- Develop resiliency and redundancy across divisions for infrastructure maintenance in the face of the unexpected.
- Develop resiliency and redundancy across division employees of system knowledge
- Develop resiliency and redundancy in electronic systems for wider use and implementation

Water Division

- Complete the Water Divisions Emergency Response Plan required by the EPA.
- Install a liquid chlorine system at 3rd Ave., which includes a building addition to accommodate the infrastructure.
- New pressure reducing station for Della View subdivision area and west Hailey.

Wastewater Division

- Wastewater Facility Masterplan
- Upgrades of electrical components and equipment in the process room, including blowers, filter panel, UV system, and headworks.
- Recruitment of new personnel, seeking highly committed employees for our growing infrastructure.

Park Division

- Water conservation
- South Woodside Park Construction

Street Division

- Fleet Maintenance and Upgrades, using remaining snow removal funding for equipment replacement and repairs.
- Employee retention and training. Modify current training procedures with available funding to keep employee salaries as competitive as possible with the current rise in the cost of living changes and training short falls.
- Parking enforcement and outreach to keep rights of way clear of parked cars during winter.
- Maintain a stable level of service with anticipated growth, by conducting an analysis of current budgets and staffing levels in Public Works and implement a strategic growth plan focused on budgeting services to meet positive growth.

Heritage Tree Program News

The Hailey Tree Committee approved its first Heritage Tree nomination for the City of Hailey at their February meeting. Manon Gaudreau nominated a historic Rocky Mountain Douglas fir located at the Grange Hall at 609 South Third Avenue. The tree, estimated to be 65 years old, is 55 feet tall, with a 60 inch circumference and a crown spread of 32 feet.



Gaudreau, who serves as the treasurer of the Upper Big Wood River Grange, believes this tree was planted by Rupert House who was a member of the Grange for many years. House is believed to have dug a small tree from his property in East Fork and transplanted it to the Grange. House was one of the community's beloved old-timers, a miner who moved to the Wood River Valley in 1936 to work the Triumph Mine in East Fork. He and his wife Bonnie raised their family on a simple farm in East Fork. House served as a Blaine County Commissioner for 16 years from 1980 to 1996, and continued to be active in community organizations until his death in 2008 at the venerable age of 92.

The Rocky Mountain Douglas fir is a common and valuable tree in the Wood River Valley. The hardy evergreen conifer is native to the interior mountain regions of the Northwest. It's frost and drought tolerance makes it a good symbol for the Grange Hall, as this particular tree receives rain and snow as its primary source of moisture. The grounds of the Grange are largely unirrigated.

The Hailey Tree Committee extends its hearty thanks to Gaudreau and all the members and supporters of the UBWR Grange for this nomination! Hailey's Heritage Tree nomination form can be found at <https://www.haileycityhall.org/TreeCommittee/TreeCommittee.asp#top>

Become Educated on Poisonous Plants

A few winters ago, many area elk died from ingesting portions of the poisonous Japanese Yew plant, which was found by the elk in urban landscapes under the snow. Thereafter, many local governments, including the City of Hailey, adopted ordinances prohibiting planting of Japanese Yew.



Education may be the best remedy in this matter as we pursue beautiful landscape designs and choice of plantings. Hailey's legislation focuses on Japanese Yew, but there may be other types of poisonous plant selected for local landscapes, or other harmful measures toward wildlife taken unwittingly by landowners.

There are a variety of toxic plants around us, the danger of which we may not be aware. Community members are encouraged to seek out more information about plants before deciding to put them in their yard or garden. Make the effort to learn about poisonous plants, their effect on wildlife, dogs, and children. Inquire with landscapers as to their professional knowledge about the plants you are considering purchasing. Along with plants, become educated as well on landscape chemicals, herbicides, pesticides and the use of products safe for the environment and humans.

University of Idaho Blaine County Extension is a great source of information for homeowners and homeowner associations, especially when it comes to plant identification and information. We have obtained three resources from that office on poisonous plants:

Plants Poisonous to Livestock in the Western States
<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/np/PoisonousPlants/PoisonousPlants.pdf>

Poisonous Plants of Southern Idaho
http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5182430.pdf

Equines & Toxic Plants
http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/range/toxicplants_horses/index.html

City Finances

Hailey Returns \$17,150 to Customers

Near the end of 2020, the Hailey City Council made a decision to discontinue the practice of collecting deposits from customers who were having difficulty paying their utility bills and had their accounts shut off. At the time this new ordinance went into effect Hailey had in its accounts \$17,150 of these deposits from 150 water utility customers. Beginning in late December, City Treasurer Becky Stokes has worked to apply money to these customer accounts. That work was completed near the end of February. Many customers will see that this month's bill is far less than expected, or may even have a credit to be applied to a future month's bills.

Slower Speeds Protect Wildlife and Humans

The speed limit sign just north of the Hailey City limits establishes a slower nighttime speed



along SH75, from the city limits north to Buttercup Road. The area is inhabited by many elk and deer. The slower nighttime speed limit is intended to protect both wildlife and humans. The daytime speed of 55 mph is slowed to a nighttime 45 mph. Nighttime is defined by traffic law as dawn to dusk.

City Meeting Calendar

City Council.....	03/08/2021
City Council	03/29/2021
Planning & Zoning	03/01/2021
Planning & Zoning	03/15/2021
Arts & Historic Preservation.....	03/09/2021
Library Board.....	03/17/2021
Parks & Lands Board.....	03/24/2021
Tree Committee	03/11/2021
Urban Renewal Agency.....	03/04/2021
Development Impact Fee Advisory	04/05/2021
Planning & Zoning.....	04/05/2021

Hailey City Council To Consider Adding New Curbside Recycling Programs

The City of Hailey's long-term franchise ordinance with Obras, LLC, dba Clear Creek Disposal, governs rubbish and recycling hauling services within the Hailey City limits. The current ordinance will expire at midnight on May 12, 2021. The City of Hailey and Clear Creek Disposal have worked together to explore the costs and feasibility of adding more curbside hauling services for the residents and businesses of Hailey.

The Hailey City Council will be considering expansion of its two curbside services during its city council meetings scheduled in March and April. Discussion will be focused on expanding to four residential curbside programs. The opportunity, logistics and costs for these new programs will be fully vetted through a public hearing process.

The two curbside services currently in place are:

1. Solid Waste collection with customers having the choice of approximately 32, 68 and 95 gallon carts.
2. Separated Recycling materials collection using blue bins containing paper, plastics, & metals.



The additional curbside programs under discussion are:

3. Compostable materials collection, with customers having the choice of 32, 68 and 95 gallon carts for their comingled clean yard waste and food waste.
4. Corrugated Cardboard collection at the curb, with customers having the choice of a blue bin or a 32, 68 or 95 gallon cart.



Public Hearing Dates:
March 8, 2021 March 29, 2021
April 12, 2021 April 26, 2021

Hailey City Council To Consider Adding New Curbside Recycling Programs

(Continued from previous page)

In addition to the four curbside programs described on the previous page, the Hailey City Council will discuss whether our new franchise agreements should retain some of the programs from previous years. Some of these programs may be no longer necessary with new curbside programs in place. The programs from previous years to be potentially eliminated include:

- Corrugated cardboard drop-off center (currently at Park & Ride and Hailey Fire Station) These drop off centers may not be necessary with a curbside program in place.



- Glass drop-off center (currently at Park & Ride and Hailey Fire Station) Ideas for improving this program through the use of a different dumpster is under discussion.

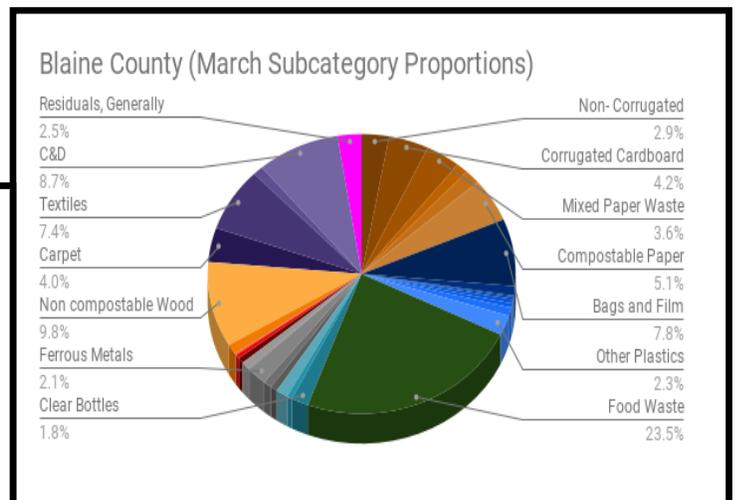


- Spring and Fall yard waste drop-off program (Currently at Park & Ride) This program could be expanded, but is likely not needed with a curbside compostable program in place that includes yard waste.

- Christmas Tree drop-off program (Currently at Park & Ride during January) Again, the curbside compostable yard waste program may obviate the Christmas tree drop-off sites.

What is in our Waste Stream

The diagram at the right shows the types of waste generated from the Cities and areas within Blaine County, all of which is hauled to the Blaine County Recycling Center and the Southern Idaho Solid Waste facility at the Ohio Gulch Landfill, after which it is transported out of the Wood River Valley.



What is considered a flood?

- **A Flood is a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of 2 or more acres of normally dry land area or of 2 or more properties from:**
 - *Overflow of inland waters; or*
 - *Unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source; or*
 - *Mudflow*

What should you do before a flood?

- **Determine if your property is located in an area subject to flooding.** The following areas have a known potential for flooding in the City of Hailey:

**Della View
Birdwood**

**Cedar Bend
Broadford Estates**

This is not a complete list of areas that are within flood zones, but rather a list of areas with documented flooding problems. If your neighborhood is not listed, your property may still be within a flood zone, as designated by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) maps. Upon request, the Floodplain Administrator at (208) 788-9815 x27, will make free flood zone determinations for properties within the City. The building department maintains elevation certificates for many properties within the city which are also available for review.

- **Purchase flood insurance on your property.** Flooding is not covered by a standard homeowner's insurance policy and must be purchased through a separate flood insurance policy. Coverage is available for the building itself as well as for the contents of the building. The City of Hailey participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which allows all homeowners, whether in a floodplain or not, to purchase federally backed flood insurance for all structures. Note that there is a 30-day waiting period before coverage goes into effect. More than 25 percent of NFIP claims are filed by properties located outside the floodplain, also known as the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Contact your insurance agency

for more information and visit floodsmart.gov, the official site of the NFIP.

- **Maintain drainage channels and pipes free of obstruction and debris.** The City of Hailey performs cleaning and maintenance activities on the drainage channels and pipes in City easements & rights-of-way in accordance with an established schedule and other standard operating procedures. Residents are encouraged to assist in maintaining the drainage in their areas by removing or reporting obstructions (such as shopping carts, leaves, debris, trash, etc.). Keeping drainage channels free of obstructions reduces flooding in the event of heavy rains. By way of City ordinance, it is illegal to dump trash, leaves, landscape debris, paint, grease, or any other material into any portion of the City's drainage system. Such dumping can have devastating impacts on water quality in addition to causing flooding. To report obstructions or illegal dumping, or for questions regarding drainage system maintenance, please contact the Public Works Department at (208) 788-9830 x24.
- **Protect your property from the hazards of flooding and wind.** Various methods may be used to minimize flooding. If the floor level of your property is lower than the "Base Flood Elevation" (elevation of the 100-year flood, based on the FEMA maps), consider elevating your structure, if possible. Brochures discussing flood proofing and other mitigation measures are available in Hailey City Hall and Hailey Public Library. If a flood is imminent, property can be protected by sandbagging areas subject to the entry of water into living spaces. The City of Hailey will make site visits to provide one-on-one advice to a property owner regarding flooding and drainage issues on private property. We also have site specific information for some parcels within Hailey. For more information, please contact the Community Development Department at (208) 788-9815 x27.
- **Meet improvement requirements.** The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requires that if the cost of reconstruction, additions, or other improvements to a building equals or exceeds 50% of the building's market value, then the building must meet the same construction requirements as a new building. Substantially damaged buildings must also

be brought up to the same standards. For example, a residence damaged so that the cost of repairs equals or exceeds 50% of the building's value before it was damaged must be elevated above the base flood elevation. Please contact the Building Department at (208) 788-9815 x16 for more information.

- **Meet permitting requirements.** All development within the city requires a permit. Always check and fulfill permitting requirements with the Building Department at (208) 788-9815 x16 and/or the Floodplain Administrator at (208) 788-9815 x27 before you build on, alter, fill, or re-grade on any portion of your property and/or within any easement or right-of-way. Also, contact either of the numbers above to report any suspected permitting violations.

- **Keep an emergency supply.** Non-perishable food, water, batteries, flashlights, a manual can opener, and a battery-operated radio should be kept available.



What should you do during a flood?

- If your property is in imminent danger of flooding, please contact Idaho Power at (800) 488-6151 or Intermountain Gas at (877) 777-74742 to request that your power and natural gas be shut off, or for guidance on how to do it yourself. Call either organization regarding any other electrical or natural gas emergencies.
- Move all valuables, furniture, and HVAC equipment to higher areas of the dwelling to minimize damages.
- Visit www.blaineemergency.org or tune-in to local commercial radio or television stations (KECH – 95.3 FM or KSKI – 94.5 FM), or NOAA Weather Radio (frequency 162.450) for Watch and Warning Bulletins and any corresponding emergency instructions. If evacuations are called for, it is imperative that you follow instructions in the time frame noted.

➤ If dangerous flooding conditions are imminent, avoid driving a vehicle if possible. A car can easily be carried away in just two feet of water! Do not attempt to drive or wade through deep pockets of water or running washes. Unstable banks should be avoided.

- Develop an evacuation plan for your family.
- Avoid low-lying areas. Seek shelter in the highest areas possible.

What should you do after a flood?

- Listen to the radio for emergency instructions.
- Avoid driving if possible.



May 2006 Flooding in Hailey

- Follow established permitting procedures for property damage repairs:

Select a contractor who is licensed in his trade. Require your contractors to obtain the proper permits for work being performed. Permits are required for any permanent improvement (including roofing, siding, additions, alterations, etc.) to a structure and for site work such as grading, filling, etc.

- Questions about permits or contractor licensing may be addressed to the City of Hailey Building Department at (208) 788-9815 x16.

➤ **Recognize the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains to help reduce flooding:** Floodplains are a natural component of the environment. Understanding and protecting the natural functions of floodplains helps reduce flood damage and protect resources. When flooding spreads out across the floodplain, its energy is dissipated, which results in lower flood flows downstream, reduced erosion of the streambank and channel, deposition of sediments higher in the watershed and improved groundwater recharge. Floodplains are scenic, valued wildlife habitat, and suitable for farming. Poorly planned development in floodplains can lead to streambank erosion, loss of valuable property, increased risk of flooding to downstream properties and degradation of water quality.

For more information about flood safety or the NFIP, please note the following:

<http://www.haileycityhall.org>
www.floodalert.fema.gov
www.floodsmart.gov
www.fema.gov/hazards/floods
1-888-FLOOD29

This information is provided by the City of Hailey and is applicable to properties within the limits of the City. If you reside in a jurisdiction other than the City of Hailey, contact your regulatory authority for information. Please contact the City Floodplain Administrator with questions at (208) 788-9815 x27 or via U.S. mail.



May 2006 Flooding in Hailey



ARE YOU PREPARED FOR A FLOOD IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?



MANY AREAS IN HAILEY ARE IN OR NEAR A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA.

History of Flooding in the City of Hailey. The City is susceptible to flooding associated with spring runoff of the Big Wood River, and with sheet flooding during unusual weather events.



May 2006 Flooding in Hailey

Each year as the water rises during the spring there is a potential for flooding in many areas including the Della View Subdivision area by Heagle Park. Quigley Creek experienced a flashflood event associated with heavy rain on frozen ground during the Winter of '63.

Did you know?

In a high-risk area, your home is more likely to be damaged by flood than by fire. Floods are the #1 natural disaster in the United States.