



# OUR EARTH

*Our Town, Our Future*

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## Your City in Action

### City Develops Bike Rack Standards

To facilitate a bike-friendly community, Hailey City Council voted to establish Bike Rack Standards for development in Hailey's business areas and at new multi-family residential projects. The function and convenience of bicycle racks are factors that influence decisions to run errands on bikes. By adopting standards for bike parking, the council hopes to help developers and business owners to select and place appropriate racks for short-term parking to ensure better function and convenience for Hailey residents and customers. Stop in the Planning Office for more information.



### Energy Star Building Incentives

The Hailey City Council will consider giving financial incentives to *Energy Star* building projects within Hailey at a public hearing on March 10.



Building and transportation continue to be the two greatest contributors to greenhouse gasses, each representing approximately one third of the total. To help reduce building impact on our fragile

environment, *Energy Star* Building Incentives have been proposed to encourage energy efficient construction of homes. Specifically, an application for a residence qualifying for *Energy Star* status will enjoy expedited plan review and deferral of some building permit related fees until issuance of the

Certificate of Occupancy. During a busy building season, *Energy Star* Qualified Home plan reviews will move to the top of the list, saving potentially three to five weeks. In addition, the deferred building permit fees for a 1,500 square foot home, roughly \$4000, will be payable upon final inspection rather than upon receipt of the building permit! *Energy Star* homes might be a bit more costly to build but the added expense is offset with the City's incentive plan, lowered utility bills and the potential for greater resale value. The payback via reduced electric and heating costs can be as quick as three years. For more information, come in and pick up an information packet or visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) and [idahopower.com](http://idahopower.com).

### HELP'S Heating Challenge

HELP Hailey 2008 enters its second month of the Heating Challenge with our 10 intrepid contestants having received their heating audits and their lists of personal and building changes that could reduce the portion of their carbon footprint caused by building and water heating. What they do with that information and how much it reduces their energy consumption will determine our first winner of the HELP Hailey 2008 Energy Contest.

Most frequently seen audit suggestions for our contestants:

1. Install a programmable thermostat (to automatically adjust heat during times when the building is empty or the family is in bed).
2. Lower water heater temperature to no more than 120 degrees.

These two changes can make a difference. Try them out in your home or business!



## Hailey Environmental Leadership Program (HELP)

Helping Ourselves, Our Community, and Our Earth