



OUR EARTH

Our Town, Our Future

March 2010
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In The Community

The Fruit of Hailey

Though winter is still with us, as the days lengthen thoughts turn to summer's bounty. The Sage School is organizing a local fruit tree census to determine what fruit grows successfully here. If you have fruit trees in your yard and would like to participate in this census, please email Harry@TheSageSchool.org with your location, variety and number of trees. Also of interest is if these trees were planted by you or "inherited." The census and network may lead to education on best practices with preserving the produce and potential for redistribution of the surplus to interested parties, such as the Hunger Coalition or individuals wishing to make jam, cider or simply eat local fruit.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Bring Your Own Bags



JUST BAG IT !

There is no Planet B

Small things add up and the plastic bag is no exception. Over a billion plastic bags are given away free each day and U.S. retailers are paying about \$4 billion/year for this convenience. As plastic does not biodegrade, those billions each year

add up over centuries to cause an ongoing and worldwide problem. Join us as we work to find easy alternatives to the single-use plastic bag. *Just Bag It!* is looking for individuals, businesses, school groups and artists to participate in a series of events throughout 2010 that will reinvent the way we perceive and use plastic bags.

Help local merchants make April 22 a bag-free day! Volunteers are making and collecting reusable bags to distribute to local merchants in celebration of Earth Day's 40th anniversary. If you have surplus cloth or mesh bags (or wish to make bags from reused materials) and would like to donate these bags, please deposit them in the box in the foyer of the Main Street entrance to City Hall. A creative way to whittle down your supply of plastic grocery bags is to crochet them into a sturdy tote for your

groceries! Check out www.cchita-swan.org/pdf/Crocheting_bags.pdf or search *Crochet with Plastic Bags*. HELP Hailey find its way out of the plastic bag!

Just Bag It! Important Dates

- March 30 – Video Contest Deadline (see box below)
- April 2 – Public Art Project Application Deadline
- April 8 – Kick Off Event
- April 22 – Bag-Free Day

For more information, please go to www.HaileyCityHall.org or contact Elizabeth Jeffrey at MakeItGreen@att.net.

Calling all YouTube Enthusiasts!

Number one reason people don't use reusable bags when shopping –
"I forgot"

Great way to remind them to carry their reusable bags into the store –
Your own 30 second YouTube video!

Join the City of Hailey in helping all shoppers remember to bring their own bags on Earth Day (April 22nd) and every day they're shopping.

Go to <http://www.haileycityhall.org/HELP/JustBagIt.asp>

for all information and forms, and to submit your 30 second video response on or before March 30, 2010.

Prizes!

- Winners' videos will be presented at our public kick off event, April 8.
- Videos will be featured on Hailey's *Just Bag It!* web page and ERC website.
- First Place Winner will be used as a spot on local TV during the month of April.