



OUR EARTH

Our Town, Our Future

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In The Community

Sign Up Now for Community Audit and Retrofit Rebate Program (CARRP)

With fall just around the corner and winter soon approaching, now is a great time to determine what can be done to your home or business to increase energy conservation and decrease energy costs. And now, with the local Community Audit and Retrofit Rebate Program (CARRP), there are more financial incentives available to do so than ever, which will keep you warmer for less money this coming winter and every winter thereafter.

In addition to the financial incentives available by Idaho Power and the state and federal government, Hailey has created a program which can be stacked with funds available by other agencies to maximize savings. The city recently received a regional grant, along with six other local government partners, to improve energy efficiency and conservation and stimulate job growth. Part of the grant includes \$37,401 for Hailey residents to apply towards a rebate program for buildings. CARRP gives building owners a rebate for 50% of an energy audit, up to \$200 and 30% of energy efficiency improvement materials, up to \$2,000 (minus the amount of the audit rebate), when both an energy audit and retrofit are conducted. In total each applicant is eligible for up to \$2,000. Some eligible materials include energy efficient: lighting, doors and windows, furnaces, insulation, appliances, water heaters, and weather sealing products.

Limitations:

- Retrofit rebates are for materials only, not labor (excluding audit rebate).
- Only materials associated with improvements listed in the audit **and** “eligible” materials, as outlined here and in greater detail in the final application and on the city’s website, may receive the rebate.
- Audit must have been completed **after** May 15, 2010 to be eligible for a rebate
- Materials purchased **prior** to August 15, 2010 are not eligible for a rebate
- New construction is not eligible for rebate funds.

- Funds are limited and are distributed on a first-come first-served basis – fill out a reservation application today to reserve your rebate (applications can be found online at the website below or in the Building and Planning Department at City Hall).

Research shows that there are two main barriers that keep building owners from improving the energy efficiency of their existing buildings:

1. **Information** – without tests, such as a blower door and duct blaster, and a detailed analysis of the building and its energy performance, it is difficult to accurately determine what improvements *really* should be made. This is based on economics. A certified energy auditor prioritizes improvements based on the cost of the improvement and the amount of energy saved. The improvements with the greatest payback (i.e. lowest cost to improve and greatest energy savings) are identified and targeted in an audit done by a certified auditor.
2. **Cost** – The average person lives in their home for 5-7 years. Often the paybacks identified in an audit are less than 5-7 years; however, if additional funds can be used to supplement the costs, paybacks may be achieved by the building owner even sooner, making the case for a retrofit or energy improvements even stronger. The current owner and subsequent building occupants will then benefit from the energy savings associated with the improvements for the lifetime of the building. Given that the average building lifespan is 75 years, this can equate to a large amount of savings.

For more information please visit: <http://www.haileycityhall.org/building/CARRP/CARRP.asp> or call 788-9815, ext. 24.

Sustainable Building Fact:

Over 300 communities in six states have adopted mandatory or voluntary above-code building programs, which increase the energy efficiency of buildings. States include California, Washington, Oregon, Minnesota, Illinois and New Mexico.

The Build Better Program

The Sustainable Building Advisory Committee presented the Build Better Program to the Hailey City Council last April. On September 27th the council will review the Build Better Program recommendation as an amendment to the city's building ordinance.

The committee's recommendation was created for a number of reasons and serves multiple purposes:

1. It addresses energy and water conservation in a manner that keeps costs to a minimum for the applicant and the city.
2. It is a step towards planning for greater energy security and independence, and guards against the financial impacts of future energy price volatility.
3. Buildings use the most energy of any sector in the US – more than the transportation sector – therefore, it makes sense to focus on sources of usage that are greatest.
4. Current building practices are legal minimums established by the State – greater energy efficiency can be obtained.
5. Our local climate requires lots of energy during the winter – this translates to higher energy costs and provides an opportunity to substantially increase efficiencies and savings.
6. The average life span of a building is 75 years. The status of energy prices and availability could change within 75 years, especially considering the potential impacts of climate change and future policies aimed at curtailing emissions associated with climate change.
7. Future building code requirements and federal legislation may require our community to rapidly improve building practices; being ahead of the curve will help Hailey adjust.
8. It focuses on new construction to take advantage of opportunities to ensure a better future building stock and existing structures to address the most energy inefficient buildings that will likely make up the majority of the building stock for decades.
9. It ensures that buildings are built in a manner that considers energy efficiency for future occupants of buildings, so occupants aren't left paying high energy and heating costs.
10. It helps keep building occupants warmer for a longer period of time when power failures occur, such as the outage that occurred last Christmas.

Visit: <http://www.haileycityhall.org/SustainabilityCommittee/BuildBetterEvents/OrdinanceFactSheet.pdf> for a summary of the ordinance or <http://www.haileycityhall.org/>

[GreenBuildingandPlanningAdvisoryCommittee.asp](http://www.haileycityhall.org/GreenBuildingandPlanningAdvisoryCommittee.asp) for more detailed information.

In addition, you can call 788-9815, ext. 24, or email Marie.platt@haileycityhall.org for questions and comments.

Plastic Bags

Public Art Project Raises Awareness

The *Just Bag It!* temporary public art project – *In The Beginning There Was No Plastic* – was a successful way to raise awareness about plastic bag use and disposal. The sculpture by artist Shelia Kelley was created from more than 1,000 used plastic bags. Metal hands hold the earth and the globe spins. Larry Meyers supported Kelley with the metalwork for the piece.

The sculpture was installed during *A Month of Art* (July) at Atkinsons' and Albertsons, for two weeks in each location. Then, with the artist contract for this piece concluded, the sculpture moved to the Hailey Farmer's and Artist's Market. Atkinsons', Albertsons and the Hailey Farmer's and Artist's Market are all *Just Bag It!* project partners. Other project partners include King's, the Environmental Resource Center and the Hailey Chamber of Commerce.



In The Beginning There Was No Plastic
Artist Shelia Kelley

In other *Just Bag It!* news:

- On July 12, the Hailey City Council proclaimed Earth Day of each year to be a plastic bag free day in Hailey.
- On August 10, the Hailey Public Library held a class that taught how to crochet a tote bag out of used plastic bags.
- Thursdays throughout the summer, *Just Bag It!* manned a table at the Hailey Farmer's and Artist's Market.
- There's still time to enter the YouTube video contest! <http://www.haileycityhall.org/HELP/JustBagIt.asp>
- Watch for a school logo contest this fall.

Contact project manager Elizabeth Jeffrey at makeitgreen@me.com for more information.

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