Hailey City Adopts No-Idling Rule

Hailey Businesses May Request ‘No Idling’ Signs from City

(Hailey, Idaho) – The Hailey City Council adopted a no-idling ordinance which became effective on November 4, 2020. The new rule requires that vehicle engines be turned off when the vehicle will be idle for more than 3 minutes. Violation of the rule is punishable by a $100 fine. Local businesses may request a ‘No Idling’ sign from the City of Hailey, which they can place on their building or premises to help with implementing the new rules, summarized below:

Prohibited Conduct. A driver of a vehicle on public property must turn off the engine upon stopping at a destination; and must not cause or allow an engine to idle at any location for more than 3 consecutive minutes or for a period or periods aggregating more than 3 minutes in any one-hour period.

Exemptions A through I. These rules would not apply to a vehicle or piece of equipment when:

A. Idling is necessary while stopped for an official traffic control device; for an official traffic control signal; for traffic conditions over which the driver has no control, including, but not limited to when stopped in a line of traffic, stopped at a railroad crossing, or stopped at a construction zone; or stopped at the direction of a peace officer;

B. Idling is necessary to ascertain that the vehicle and/or the off-road equipment is in safe operating condition and equipped as required by all provisions of law, and all equipment is in good working order, either as part of the daily vehicle inspection, or as otherwise needed;

C. Idling is necessary for testing, servicing, repairing, or diagnostic purposes;

D. Idling is necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle/equipment was designed, other than transporting goods, for example: operating a lift, crane, pump, drill, hoist, ready mixed concrete mixer vehicle, or other auxiliary equipment other than a heater or air conditioner;
E. Idling is necessary to operate a lift or other piece of equipment designed to ensure safe loading and unloading of goods and people;

F. Idling is necessary to operate defrosters, heaters, air conditioners, or other equipment to prevent a safety or health emergency, but not solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers;

G. Idling is necessary solely to recharge a battery or other energy storage unit of a hybrid electric vehicle / equipment; or

H. Idling is necessary to operate equipment that runs intermittently.

I. Idling is necessary in the operations of public safety and emergency vehicles.