

CITY OF HAILEY – ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The City of Hailey has long been a steward of the environment. The city's achievements in this area include:

- In 1996, Hailey became the first city in the Wood River Valley to enact curbside recycling, mandated by its franchise agreement with the local rubbish collection company. The city continues to support valley-wide recycling efforts.
- In 2003, Hailey passed its Dark Sky Ordinance to reduce outside lighting costs and light pollution.
- Beginning in 2004, with the assistance of an EPA STAG Grant, Hailey was the first Wood River Valley city to install water meters, resulting in a water usage drop of almost 25% during the irrigation season. Water rates are set to discourage excessive water use and award those who practice conservation. Hailey partners with other conservation groups to help educate residents and business owners on the benefits of wise water use.
- In 2004, Hailey worked to protect its hillside environment by restricting building on hillsides.
- In February 2007, Hailey became the first valley city to formalize climate protection efforts by founding the Hailey Environmental Leadership Program (HELP). The program involves staff members, representatives of a number of environmental organizations and a citizen liaison. In May 2008, the group was named the Wood River Valley Environmental Organization of the Year.
- In February 2007, former Mayor Susan McBryant and the City Council were the first city governing body in the valley to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.
- In September 2007, Hailey was the first valley city to join ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability. The city completed its baseline assessment that same year and set targets for greenhouse gas emissions through modifying employee behavior and facilities.
- In October 2007, Hailey entered into a joint agreement with Mountain Rides, the Wood River Valley's public transportation provider, and provides annual funding to support public transportation expansion.
- In the fall of 2008, Hailey became the first Wood River Valley city to adopt a carbon emissions reduction goal: 15% by 2015 in city facilities. By 2010, carbon emissions have been reduced by nearly 50 metric tons. Hailey calculates a total 4% reduction since adoption of the goal and plans to achieve a 3% additional reduction annually, to reach the goal of 15% by 2015.
- In November 2008, the city created the Sustainable Building/Planning Advisory Committee to research and develop recommendations to increase the sustainability of homes/commercial buildings constructed in the city. Green building codes were added to Hailey's ordinances.
- In 2008 Hailey adopted a Tree Ordinance to protect its public urban forest. Hailey also established a Tree Committee, which developed an Urban Forest Plan and a Wood River Valley Tree Guide.

- From 2010 to the present Hailey has been actively installing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Street renovations on Woodside Boulevard, Croy Street, Myrtle Street, and River Street have been completed or are underway.
- In 2012 Hailey began to put its parks on surface water irrigation, rather than irrigation from the municipal water system. Parks which are surface water irrigated now include: Cutters, Curtis, Deerfield, Foxmoore, Heagle, Hop Porter and Lions parks. Infrastructure for surface water irrigation is partially installed to Balmoral, Keefer and Woodside Boulevard.
- From 2015 to the present Hailey has been actively helping homeowners to retrofit their yards to a more sustainable landscaping plan. This is done through a Bureau of Water Reclamation Grant, with a program called Water Smarty.
- In 2016, Hailey reached one of the goals of the Urban Forest Plan when it hired an arborist.
- Hailey completed it's EPA Community Climate Challenge grant, reporting that it had exceeded its carbon emission goals.
- In 2017, Hailey completed the Woodside Treatment Plant Biosolids project. This \$6 million project changed the way the sewer solids are handled, to further protect the river and reduce the amount of sludge trucked away from the treatment plant.
- In 2018 Hailey joined the Idaho Power Cohort to receive rebates on costs to reduce the energy use in its water system. Hailey's water system is one of the lowest energy-using system in the state, as a large portion of its water comes from Indian Springs without pumping.
- In 2019 Hailey received a rebate for having changed it's lead pump well from Northridge to River Street, to reduce the energy required for pumping water.

Hailey obtained several grants to help with sustainability:

- US EPA Just Bag It! Pollution Source Reduction Project, a \$15,122 Project. This pollution source reduction project was aimed at reducing the use of plastic bags. Just Bag It! involved working with grocers, merchants and consumers to reduce, recycle and reuse plastic bags, while providing an economic benefit to businesses; and providing outreach and education to Hailey schools and the public to raise awareness of the environmental issues surrounding plastic bags. Hailey worked with its project partners to implement a diverse range of activities, including producing and distributing cloth bags with partner logos, holding school poster and logo contests, a Facebook page, a You Tube video contest, and a temporary public art project. There was also a kick-off event, followed by a plastic bag free day to coincide with a celebration of Earth Day on April 22, 2010.
- Idaho Office of Energy Resources Energy Audit & Retrofit Program \$199,032 Project. This project involved working with a broader, countywide team to implement a rebate-based energy audit and retrofit program in the community. Also included in the scope of work were energy audit and energy efficiency upgrades to specified public buildings.
- US DOE Local Energy Assurance Plan (LEAP) \$167,067 Project. This project commenced in

May 2010, and involved conducting a Local Energy Assurance Planning initiative to build energy assurance capability and enhance coordination and communication locally, regionally and statewide. The project considered renewable energy technologies as well as Smart Grid technology in crafting the plan. Hailey hired a new Energy Emergency Assurance Coordinator to assist with the planning effort.

- Idaho Office of Energy Resources Wastewater Treatment Plant 24.2kW PV Solar Installation, \$289,351 Project. This project commenced in June 2010, and involved installing a 24.2kW PV solar power system at the city's Woodside Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant is the largest consumer of energy in municipal operations. 100% of the generated power is used directly on site. The project also involves installing a simple off-the-shelf energy recovery unit (ERV) that reclaims rejected heat from a process building exhaust airstream and reintroduces this heat into the ventilation makeup airstream. These two project components combined are expected to eliminate 41.8 metric tons per year of CO₂ greenhouse gases as a result of eliminating grid produced energy and natural gas normally consumed at the plant.
- US EPA City-Wide Water Meter Installation \$1,414,260 Project. This project involved the purchase of meters, MXUs and vaults to allow Hailey to implement a metered water system. Hailey anticipated that a reduction of water use in the 20 – 30% range would be achieved, enabling the city to more efficiently meet daily water demands, especially during the summer. Water rates were modified to discourage excessive water use and award users who practice conservation. The metered system also allows Hailey to notify residents of water leaks on private property, the repair of which contributes additional water savings. Meter installation was complete in 2006 with a new metered rate effective October 1, 2006. The metered system has achieved a 20 – 30% reduction in water usage across the city. Hailey continues to modify its rates to continue to encourage conservation. Water use continues to decline.
- US EPA Hailey Community Climate Challenge \$709,963 Project. Hailey created a new full-time position of Community Climate Specialist to lead Hailey's climate protection program in a three-year period. The position supported the implementation of the Challenge, and built capacity within the municipality to assure continued reduction of GHG emissions through development and deployment of city and community initiatives and projects. The Community Climate Challenge focused on six specific areas, including:
 1. Energy Audit & Retrofit with Renewable Energy Incentives – energy saving retrofit of homes.
 2. Green Building Demonstration Project – Constructed a LEED Platinum City building.
 3. Solid Waste Management Capacity Building – Construction Waste Recycling Program.
 4. Downtown Bike Share System – implemented bike share system now used by Mountain Rides.
 5. Energy Efficient Streetlighting – retrofitted 70 Hailey streetlights from 125 watts to 48 watts.
 6. Education, Outreach & Replicability – many community workshops, a booklet, and a movie.