



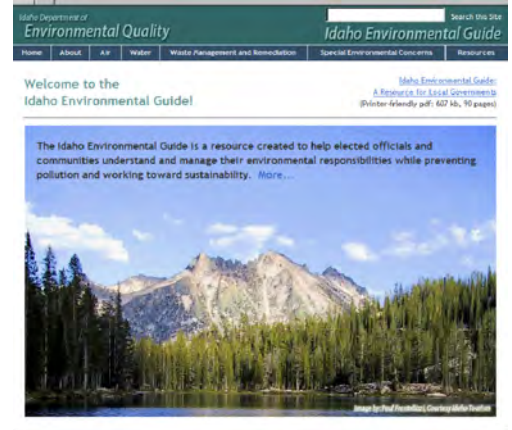
## New Online Resource for Communities: Idaho Environmental Guide

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has recently developed the *Idaho Environmental Guide - A Resource for Local Governments*. The guide was developed to help elected officials and communities understand and manage their environmental responsibilities while preventing pollution and working toward sustainability. It provides an overview of the many pertinent issues facing communities related to air and water quality and waste management. These issues either directly affect local governments, such as wastewater oversight, or indirectly affect local governments through human health and the environment, such as ground water contamination.

The purpose of the guide is informational; it is meant to be applied to environmental issues for strategic planning and consulted before approving new projects within communities.

DEQ anticipates that the *Idaho Environmental Guide* will be a valuable resource in protecting public health and the environment of Idaho communities and will provide a good understanding of environmental rules and regulations.

The guide is available as an online tool or in a printable format that can be downloaded from DEQ's Web site at [www.deq.idaho.gov/ieg](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/ieg). If you are unable to access the internet or would prefer to receive a printed copy from DEQ, contact Joanna Pierce at (208) 373-0146 or [joanna.pierce@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:joanna.pierce@deq.idaho.gov).



## Green Requirement for Funding Under American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). ARRA requires at least 20% of each state's ARRA capitalization grant to be used to fund projects referred to as Green Project Reserve (GPR). Idaho's State Revolving Fund loan programs received \$38.7 million in ARRA funds that are subject to the GPR.

These loan programs will fund projects to repair, replace, and rehabilitate the state's vital infrastructure, meeting the needs of drinking water and wastewater facilities and efforts to reduce nonpoint water pollution.

Entire projects or appropriate identifiable components of larger projects may be considered for inclusion in the GPR. For projects or project components to be considered as GPR, they must fall into one of four categories:

Water Efficiency refers to the use of improved technologies and practices to deliver equal or better services with less water. Water efficiency may be gained by installing water meters in drinking water systems, thereby enabling those systems to charge by the amount of water utilized. Efficiency may also be accomplished by recycling gray water and installing leak-detection systems on pipelines.

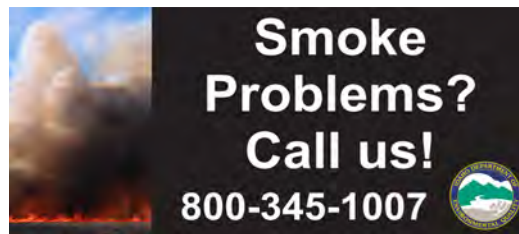
Energy Efficiency is the use of improved technologies and practices to reduce energy consumption or to produce clean energy. Clean energy includes wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectric, and biogas combined heat and power systems. Energy efficiency can be accomplished by replacing pumps with high-efficiency models or by installing solar panels on drinking water or wastewater facilities.

Green Infrastructure includes a wide array of practices to manage and treat stormwater that maintain and restore natural hydrology. These projects consist of site- and neighborhood-specific practices, such as bioretention, trees, green roofs, or porous pavements and cisterns.

Environmental Innovation projects demonstrate new or innovative approaches to managing water resources more sustainably. This may include projects that prevent pollution or remove pollutants with reduced costs as well as projects that foster adoption of water protection programs and practices to address climate change. Projects that incorporate differential uses of water based on the level of treatment to reduce the costs of treating all water to potable water standards fall into this category.

For more information on ARRA's requirement for the 20% Green Project Reserve, contact Carol Garrison at (208) 373-0577 or [carol.garrison@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:carol.garrison@deq.idaho.gov). In addition, information can be found on DEQ's Web site at [www.deq.idaho.gov/water/arra/arra\\_water\\_projects.cfm](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/arra/arra_water_projects.cfm).

## Crop Residue Burning



The summer/fall crop residue burning season is expected to begin in mid-July. The crop residue burning program, which

began last year, is designed to be protective of public health while enabling growers to burn under specific conditions. DEQ manages the program on lands other than the five Indian Reservations in Idaho.

Air quality must be considered before burning can take place. Burning is allowed if pollutant levels are within an acceptable range and smoke is expected to disperse with minimal impact to public health and safety, with special consideration for institutions with sensitive populations (e.g., hospitals, schools).

If your community receives comments or complaints about smoke from crop residue burning, feel free to refer callers to your local DEQ Regional Office (see toll-free numbers on back) or advise them to call 1-800-345-1007 (toll-free).

## P2 Champions

Is your community committed to protecting the environment? Are you aware of businesses and industries in your community that are doing an outstanding job of preventing pollution?

If so, DEQ would like to recognize your community and its environmentally friendly businesses during Pollution Prevention Week this fall. Up to 10 entities that incorporate pollution prevention into their daily operations will be selected as Pollution Prevention Champions.

Applications are available on DEQ's Web site at [www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/p2\\_champion/addchampion.cfm](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/p2_champion/addchampion.cfm). Documented results of pollution prevention activities must be included. Applications are due July 24, 2009.

Communities, businesses, and industries that participate in any method or activity that prevents, eliminates, and/or minimizes the production of waste at its source, uses nontoxic or less-toxic products, conserves energy or water, and/or reuses material rather than throwing it away are eligible to be recognized as Pollution Prevention Champions.

Businesses and industries selected as Pollution Prevention Champions will receive a certificate signed by Governor Otter and have their operations profiled on DEQ's Web site.

For more information, contact Joanna Pierce at DEQ's State Office in Boise at (208) 373-0146 or toll-free at 1-866-790-IDEQ (4337), or email [joanna.pierce@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:joanna.pierce@deq.idaho.gov).



## DEQ Regional Offices

Boise Regional Office  
(208) 373-0550  
toll-free: (888) 800-3480

Coeur d'Alene Regional Office  
(208) 769-1422  
toll-free: (877) 370-0017

Idaho Falls Regional Office  
(208) 528-2650  
toll-free: (800) 232-4635

Lewiston Regional Office  
(208) 799-4370  
toll-free: (877) 541-3304

Pocatello Regional Office  
(208) 236-6160  
toll-free: (888) 655-6160

Twin Falls Regional Office  
(208) 736-2190  
toll-free: (800) 270-1663



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Boise, ID 83706

## DEQ Outreach Programs for Idaho Communities

DEQ sponsors various outreach programs that provide education and resources to communities in Idaho to help protect our environment. Following are two major programs:

### Clean Air Zone Idaho

This program is aimed at reducing exposure to exhaust from idling vehicles. Vehicle exhaust contains many air pollutants and leads to formation of other pollutants, such as ozone, which is harmful to human health, especially children, the elderly, and people with respiratory problems.

If your community is already a participant, thanks for helping keep Idaho's air clean! If not, you can still join, and it's free! Contact Loni Hanka, DEQ's Community Outreach Specialist at (208) 373-0124 or [loni.hanka@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:loni.hanka@deq.idaho.gov). Participants receive signs, posters, brochures, and window and vehicle decals to remind citizens to turn off their engines.

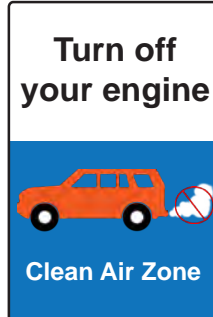
### Storm Drain Marking

DEQ has developed a storm drain marking toolkit, a set of materials that can help in planning and implementing a community event to mark storm drains. Storm drain markers



are a visible way to remind citizens not to dump waste down storm drains. The toolkit contains instructions on how to plan and implement a storm drain marking program, items to publicize a marking event, and safety tips.

For information on how to plan a storm drain marking event in your community, visit DEQ's Web site at [www.deq.idaho.gov/water/prog\\_issues/storm\\_water/storm\\_drain\\_marking.cfm](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/water/prog_issues/storm_water/storm_drain_marking.cfm).



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