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## Citizens for Smart Growth

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# Community Developments & Perspectives

**An in-depth look at growth in the Wood River Valley**

## PROPOSITION ONE EMBRACES SMART GROWTH PRINCIPLES

PROPOSITION ONE IS AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY for the citizens of Blaine County to raise \$3.4 million to protect land, water and wildlife. It's a chance for us to protect these things while we still can and before it costs much more to do so.

In the face of a national financial crisis in which we can only hope to effect change, here is a chance to vote for something that directly affects our quality of life and property values.

We are very lucky to live in a county where a group of local residents got together to form Blaine County Citizens for Water and Wildlife. We are lucky to have county commissioners who listened to the group and agreed to put Proposition 1 before voters on Nov. 4. More than anything, we are lucky to live in a community that values open space.

Surveys indicate that an overwhelming majority of Blaine County citizens support Proposition 1. Citizens have identified the Big Wood and Little Wood rivers as areas we want to see protected. When the levy passes, an oversight committee will be appointed to oversee how the money the levy raises is spent.

The best part is that it will only cost the average homeowner \$50 each year for two years. A friend of mine used this comparison to put the \$50 annual amount into perspective: it's the equivalent of one trip to Atkinsons' for dinner supplies (likely enough for only one dinner).

Citizens for Smart Growth is a fervent supporter of this levy. Smart Growth's mission is "empowering citizens to shape vibrant communities in balance with nature." That's exactly what this ballot measure purports to do.

The ballot measure is great on a number of levels. Smart Growth works to protect our natural assets: rural charm, open space, air and water quality and wildlife habitat, while encouraging economic prosperity. This ballot measure will help do both.

The land, water and wildlife levy will help maintain and possibly bolster property values. It will also help deter development in the rural and sensitive areas of our county. Such developments are expensive to taxpayers because they often require the extension of county services. It will encourage development closer to cities, where these services are more accessible.

I'll leave you with this final thought. Cities in the Wood River Valley are expected to add more than 12,000 residents by 2025. New residents will add about 5,000 homes and more than 9,000 vehicles. Growth will likely be concentrated in south valley areas, but the impacts on



*SMART GROWTH'S MISSION IS "EMPOWERING CITIZENS TO SHAPE VIBRANT COMMUNITIES IN BALANCE WITH NATURE." THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THIS BALLOT MEASURE PURPORTS TO DO.*



**Fall 2008**

*empowering citizens to shape vibrant communities in balance with nature*

**IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETINGS 2**

What's your vision for the Valley? Your voice is important. Come hear about and express your thoughts on these upcoming proposed developments and projects.

**BLUE IS THE NEW GREEN 4**

Smart Growth Board President Morgan Brown provides insight on sustainable water practices. Explore septic versus sewer and onsite wastewater treatment options.

**SUN VALLEY SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE 6**

This year's Sun Valley Sustainability Conference will take place Oct. 23-25. Turn to this page for the full schedule. We are proud to announce Time Magazine recently recognized our keynote speakers.

**MEET BOARD MEMBER MICHAEL WISE 7**

Ketchum resident Michael Wise has a deep respect for the natural landscape. He joined the Smart Growth board to do his part to help preserve our natural assets.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & PROJECT UPDATES

### Sustain Blaine:

Tired of watching passively while the world economy struggles on? Would you like to exert some control over your own economic destiny? Where Wall Street may be out of our hands, we can make a difference right here on our Main streets.

Sustain Blaine is a collaboration of diverse community members working to develop an economic strategy for all of Blaine County. The next two Sustain Blaine meetings are scheduled for Oct. 22. One will take place at noon at the YMCA Community Room in Ketchum and the second will take place at 6 p.m. at the Community Campus in Hailey in Room 301-2.

In order for Sustain Blaine to be successful, it must involve a wide cross-section of the population. We need to hear from you at these meetings.

TIP Strategies, consultants for the project, will present a “progress report” detailing information they’ve uncovered about Blaine County’s economy thus far. These are the last public meetings for the Discovery Phase of the project and your final opportunity to provide input into this portion of the process. Attending either of these meetings will provide all of the information you need to become a meaningful contributor to the upcoming Community Input Workshops.

In mid November, TIP will move on to the Opportunity Phase of the economic strategy development process, where the Community Input Workshops will identify and discuss opportunities and strategies to help our local economy. The final phase of the process, in early 2009, will involve implementation of strategies Sustain Blaine identifies as the most promising. TIP’s progress report is available at [www.blainecounty.org](http://www.blainecounty.org), under Economic Development.

### Thunder Springs PUD Community Housing:

Developers of the New Residences at Thunder Springs are proposing an in lieu fee to meet community housing requirements for the new development and the original Thunder Springs development. The applicant originally proposed to develop community housing on property in the Bigwood Golf Course, but that proposal was rejected because of language in the property plat notes designating it “open space in perpetuity.” Ketchum City Council determined it would seek a declaratory judgment regarding how that particular piece of property could be used.

Part of the developer’s in lieu proposal is to give the land in question to the city along with approximately \$1 million. The next hearing on the in lieu proposal is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 20 at the regular city council meeting.

### South Gateway:

Public meetings were held at the end of September to highlight changes to the CH-PUD Overlay District. Information about the South Gateway is available under Planning & Zoning at [www.blainedcounty.org](http://www.blainedcounty.org).

### Warm Springs Ranch:

Ketchum Planning & Zoning recommended approval of Warm Springs Ranch Resort in July. The project consists of a 77-acre parcel with a proposed 4-star hotel, 54 units and 9 holes of golf. Ketchum City Council is in the information gathering stage of their review of the project. The council will meet again on the resort project Monday, Oct. 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Ketchum City Hall. A site visit is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 21 at noon and the council will continue reviewing the project at 5:30 p.m. that evening at Ketchum City Hall. More information on the Warm Springs Ranch proposal can be found at the city’s website, [www.ketchumidaho.org](http://www.ketchumidaho.org), under the Department of Community and Economic Development.

### Peregrine Ranch:

This application proposes 72 units and 9 holes of golf on 156 acres north of Hailey. The project is under review by the Blaine County Planning & Zoning Commission and the next public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 23 at 6:30 p.m. Additional information on the Peregrine Ranch proposal is available under Planning & Zoning on the county’s website, [www.blainecounty.org](http://www.blainecounty.org).

### Maybelle Hill Subdivision:

Blaine County Planning & Zoning gave a thumbs up to this project on Glendale Road in August and the application is now under review by Blaine County Commissioners. The proposal is to create 23 residential lots on 117 acres with a 58-acre agriculture section. This is the first project using the county’s Transfer of Development Rights program. Additional information on this project is available under Planning & Zoning on the county’s website, [www.blainecounty.org](http://www.blainecounty.org). Blaine County Commissioners held their last meeting on Maybelle Hill on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

### Spring Canyon Ranch:

The application is to create 116 lots on 1,800 acres approximately 2 miles west of Hailey on Croy Canyon Road. Blaine County Planning and Zoning is scheduled to begin reviewing this proposal in the next few months.

### Quigley Canyon Annexation:

The Hailey Planning & Zoning Commission recommended annexation of Quigley Canyon Ranch, which would create approximately 379 units and 18 holes of golf on over 1,000 acres just east of the city. The recommendation came with numerous conditions, including that development be restricted beyond the first pond.

The application is scheduled to come before Hailey City Council within the next few months. The city is awaiting a professional fiscal impact analysis of the proposed annexation among other documents before proceeding.

Information on the annexation is available on the city website at [www.haileycityhall.org](http://www.haileycityhall.org) under Planning & Zoning.

## A “WISE” MOVE FOR OUR BOARD



WE ARE HAPPY TO WELCOME MICHAEL WISE as the latest edition to our board of directors.

Michael has a penchant for preserving the natural assets we cherish in Blaine County. He is already helping with several board committees since joining Smart Growth in September, including fundraising and program work.

Michael was raised in the Wood River Valley in the 1980s and decided to return a few years ago with his wife and family. During the intervening years, he went to college at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

While studying in Santa Barbara, Michael met his wife, Linda, and further developed his keen interest in environmental preservation by earning a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Environmental Studies.

“Time I spent enjoying the beauty of California’s central coast made a real impact on furthering my environmental ethic,” said Michael.

After graduating from college, Michael spent a couple of years traveling and working in the Intermountain West. He also spent time in Europe before settling in Washington, D.C. He and his family visited the Wood River Valley at least twice a year and returned to make Idaho their home in 2005.

The years Michael spent living in southern California and Washington, D.C. crystallized his deep respect for the natural landscape and his desire to help preserve it.

“I saw first hand the dramatic, negative effects that irresponsible development inflicted on the beautiful landscapes—from the California coast to the previously vibrant farmland that was Virginia,” he said.

In recent years, he has been active in the Idaho Conservation League and currently serves on the ICL board of directors.

Michael is a senior technologist for CNN/Turner Broadcasting (a Time Warner Company). In his role, he focuses on digital technologies and their impact on media creation, distribution and consumption.

Michael lives in Ketchum with Linda, their son, Ben, and three dogs.



## NEW STAFF MEMBER

SMART GROWTH HIRED KELLY JACKSON THIS SUMMER to work as director of outreach and communication.

*“AS A REPORTER, I LEARNED MUCH ABOUT WHAT VALLEY CITIZENS HOLD NEAR AND DEAR TO THEIR HEARTS. ...I AM EXCITED TO WORK FOR THESE CAUSES.”*

Kelly is originally from Northwest Georgia, but has lived in the valley for the past two years, most of which she spent working as a reporter for the Wood River Journal. She earned her journalism degree from Berry College in Rome, Ga. Although she enjoyed her time as a reporter, she saw an opportunity to make an impact that she couldn’t pass up when Smart Growth advertised the position.

“It is a way to continue writing and communicating vital information to the public with an even more direct focus,” she said. “As a reporter, I learned much about what Valley citizens hold near and dear to their hearts. Because those are the same

values I have—good air and water quality, public transportation, walkable and bikeable communities, wildlife, open space, affordable housing—I am excited to work for these causes.”

Kelly lives in Hailey with her husband, Jason VonLindern, dogs Liza and Audrey and four fish. Please feel free to contact her at 788.8813 or at [kelly@citizensforsmartgrowth.org](mailto:kelly@citizensforsmartgrowth.org).

## BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

### Citizens for Smart Growth is excited to host the Hailey Chamber of Commerce’s Business After Hours event on Nov.13 at 5 p.m.

The event promises to be particularly fun for two reasons. For one, it will be our first public event in our new office space. The Smart Growth office is now located at 113 E. Bullion Street, Suite “C.”

Our new office is the third back in the Forest Street buildings Attorney Michael Kraynick moved from their old River Street location.

In case you don’t know where the buildings are, they’re beside the Wood River Land Trust and across from Atkinsons’ Market.

The buildings include four businesses: Kraynick’s law office, KB’s offices, Smart Growth and Lotus Medicine (Lisa Lintner, LAC).

Which leads to the second exciting part of our BAH. Other tenants of the Forest Service complex plan to open their doors and share in the festivities, allowing the public to see how these historic Hailey buildings were salvaged and remodeled.

The Forest Service buildings have been a distinct part of Hailey for many years and we are grateful to have our new offices in one of these preserved treasures.

We look forward to seeing you at the BAH, where we can catch up on current Smart Growth projects and enjoy refreshments.

# SUN VALLEY SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE

THE 2008 SUN VALLEY SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE will be held October 23-25 on the grounds of the beautiful Sun Valley Resort. Citizens for Smart Growth joins the ERC and Developing Green as conference hosts. We are proud to announce Time Magazine recently named this year's keynote speakers, Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger, Environmental Heroes of the Year. On Friday night they will be giving the keynote address "From Death of Environmentalism to the Politics of Possibility."

Speakers at this year's conference bring significant expertise in everything from architecture to green investing. Of particular interest to Smart Growth supporters will be the following speakers on public policy and land use planning:

- **Stephen Kanipe's** presentation, "Solomon was a Bureaucrat: Getting Results in the Public Sector," will cover progressive energy programs developed by the city of Aspen, Colo., as well as strategies for public acceptance of mandatory programs and the public process—ordinances, hearings and adoption.
- **Brian Grubb** will speak about "Sustainable Land Development Practices." This session will cover sustainable and green land development practices using the Jackson Hole experience as a case study. Techniques will be discussed such as how to identify regulatory barriers and work with local officials for change.
- **Dennis Glick** of the Sonoran Institute will share the organization's "Building from the Best of the Northern Rockies Project." With the help of a blue ribbon panel of architects, developers, smart growth advocates and conservationists, the Sonoran Institute's "Building from the Best of the Northern Rockies Project" identified the best development practices for urban, edge and rural developments in this region. The project also critiqued new developments that reflect these principles.

Other events of interest include Thursday evening's Patagonia Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival on Tour, sponsored by the ERC and the Elephant's Perch (6:30 p.m. at the NexStage Theatre). You need not have a conference badge to attend many of the events associated with this year's conference. The Exhibit Hall, open Friday and Saturday, features sustainable products, organizations and companies doing their part to create a better world. In addition, all workshops on Saturday are open to the public. For more information about the 2008 Sun Valley Sustainability Conference please call Sun Valley events at 208.726.2777 or visit [www.sunvalleysustainability.org](http://www.sunvalleysustainability.org).

## Thursday, Oct. 23

- 8:30 a.m. **Tim O'Leary - The Idaho Energy Star Program**
- 9:30 a.m. **Stephen Kanipe - Solomon was a Bureaucrat: Getting Results in the Public Sector**
- 11 a.m. **Dan Chiras - Passive Solar Design Blunders**
- 2:30 p.m. **Gary Christensen - Green Capitalism: Turning Green to Gold**
- 4 p.m. **Water Panel - Water Use and Re-use**
- 5:30 p.m. **Reception at NexStage Theatre**
- 6:30 p.m. **The Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival at NexStage (tickets at door)**

## Friday, Oct. 24

- 8:30 a.m. **Brian Grubb - Sustainable Land Development Practices**
- 10 a.m. **Sharon Patterson and Josh Bogle - Idaho Case Studies in Green Remodeling**
- 11 a.m. **Kevin Van Den Wymelenberg - Applying Concepts of Integrated Design for Energy Savings**
- 12:30 p.m. **Lunch sponsored by DeNovo Properties**
- 1:30 p.m. **Dennis Glick - Building from the Best of the Northern Rockies Project**
- 4 p.m. **Meet and greet with the keynote speakers (speakers and sponsors only)**
- 6 p.m. **Keynote address by Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger**
- \* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibit hall is open to the public

## Saturday, Oct. 25 Public sessions - no charge

- 10 a.m. **Panel - State of the Valley: What progress are our cities making on sustainability goals?**
- 11 a.m. **Panel - Stories from the Trenches: Builders and homeowners share the pleasures and pitfalls of building a green home.**
- 1 p.m. **Panel - Greening your Business**
- 1- 5:30 p.m. **Tour of Homes - See the finest examples of green homes and businesses in our valley.**
- \* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibit hall is open to the public

## Saturday, Oct. 25 Professional Workshops

- 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. **LEED for Homes Workshop**
- 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Green Building Legal Issues Workshop**
- 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **The Green Housing Market: Realtor CE Training Course**

# PROPOSITION ONE CONTINUED...

traffic, recreation, open space and community services will be experienced valley-wide. Where will these new residents work and play? How will they impact our roads, schools and infrastructure? Voting "yes" on Proposition 1 empowers you as citizens to help shape this growth so that it doesn't impact our natural assets. From a Smart Growth perspective, Proposition 1 is a way to be proactive rather than reactive to our growth concerns in Blaine County. We like that. We hope you do too. —Kelly Jackson

*Citizens for Smart Growth will be calling citizens to inform them about Proposition 1 on Oct. 28 from the Nature Conservancy offices in Hailey from 5:30-8 p.m. Food will be provided. If you are interested in helping with this, call our office at 788-8813 or e-mail [kelly@citizensforsmartgrowth.org](mailto:kelly@citizensforsmartgrowth.org).*

# OLD CUTTERS DEVELOPMENT



The view from the second floor of future Old Cutter's resident Kelly Kipling's home. Kipling's house will be ready for her to move in this winter. "I look forward to settling in a well-planned community with awesome views of Baldy, Carbonate and the south valley," she said.

Unchecked population growth can translate into declining quality of life, the destruction of sensitive environmental habitat and loss of economic and social vibrancy for a community. Developments that apply smart growth principles, however, can help alleviate this trend.

As more people move to Blaine County, where will they live, work and play? Where will additional households be located? What sort of built environment will we produce and what will be the results for the county's and the environment's well-being?

Developers in and around our communities in Blaine County play a large part in answering these questions. By working with the City of Hailey, citizens and local advocacy groups, the developers of Old Cutters were successful in designing what is now one of the best local examples of a smart growth development.

The annexation and subdivision of Old Cutters has provided an excellent addition to the growing City of Hailey. The 116 varying-sized lots, 5-acre community park, tree-lined and predominantly alley-loaded streets create the foundation for a pedestrian friendly neighborhood within convenient proximity to the bike path and downtown Hailey. The adjacent open space and hiking trails give residents access to the natural environment that draws many residents and visitors to Blaine County.

"The Old Cutters subdivision is going to be a fabulous place to live with close proximity to the five acre park, Hangman's Gulch trailhead, bike path and city core," said future resident Kelly Kipling. "I am also excited to have many of my friends moving into the community housing units that Old Cutters is offering."

Citizens for Smart Growth believes that Old Cutters sets a positive example to all of Blaine County. If development throughout Blaine County combines innovative thinking with sound, smart growth-oriented land use decisions, like Old Cutters, we will be able to preserve Blaine County's communities, rural charm, air and water quality, open space and wildlife habitat. Doing so not only benefits our current and future residents, but it can also serve as a positive example to other resort communities suffering from similar development pressures.

### Winter reading group

This summer the Community Library will feature a Smithsonian exhibit called "Between Fences," which will explore the meaning behind this everyday icon. To help jumpstart our thinking about land use issues, Smart Growth will host a monthly reading group beginning in January on related topics. More information on this will be available in our winter newsletter.

### Smart Growth is doing great work in my community.

#### How can I help?

- Become a member
- Planned giving—include Citizens for Smart Growth in your will or charitable trust
- Gift memberships for family and friends
- Spread the word! If you know someone else who is interested in Smart Growth's work to shape vibrant communities in balance with nature, please pass this newsletter on to them or send us their contact information (name, address, e-mail address).

Contact Kris Olenick for more information:  
[kris@citizensforsmartgrowth.org](mailto:kris@citizensforsmartgrowth.org)



“Twenty years from now, Blaine County will be known as a place that saved itself and kept its style and charm while adapting gracefully and intelligently to the changing times and needs of a mountain community and resort.”  
- Bill Vanderbilt

## SUSTAINABLE WATER

### WATER IS A PRECIOUS RESOURCE THAT IS STILL TREATED AS IF IT WEREN'T.

Two thirds of the planet is covered by water, but only 1 percent of that is the freshwater essential for drinking, food production and a healthy environment. Pressure from growth, climate change, pollution and profligate consumption threatens our finite supplies of freshwater. On a global scale, water looks likely to become the next resource crisis, potentially surpassing the energy crisis and replacing oil as a principal catalyst for economic welfare and war.

This might not be news to many of us living in the arid American West where irrigation is considered essential to agriculture and water rights disputes are the stuff of legend and headlines. Yet even here, many practices still treat water as though it had little value and existed in limitless quantities. If we scrutinize our practices in agriculture, landscaping, domestic consumption and “wastewater” treatment, much could be done to improve the sustainability of our water quality and quantity.

### WASTEWATER—SEPTIC TANKS ARE BAD AND SEWERS ARE GOOD, RIGHT?

Not necessarily. Conventional wisdom has long held that distributed septic tank systems create lots of problems and that a centralized sewer system can always solve them. Often septic systems are viewed as placeholders until progress and growth justify the installation of sewer lines. The problem with this logic is that it can exaggerate the challenges with septic systems and it often overlooks the problems with centralized sewer systems. And because centralized systems gather everything into one place, their problems are bigger. Much bigger.

On the face of it, there is something perverse about our approach to wastewater. Starting with a few ounces of human waste, we combine it with 40 pounds of freshwater (13 for low flow toilets), creating 40 pounds of waste. And what is this “waste” anyway? (See inset next page.) In normally occurring quantities and reasonable sanitation, it’s not a problem. Yet, we pay great expense for the pipes, pumps and storage which bring the freshwater to our toilets and even greater expense for the pipes, pumps, storage and treatment which take our human waste away.

According to the EPA, wastewater collection systems—sewer lines—cost an astounding twice or more what the sewage treatment plants themselves cost. Sewer lines can also have large environmental costs. Almost all sewer lines leak, many badly—compromising ground water quality and taxing sewer plants with unnecessary treatment of clean infiltration. Sewer pipes are large and require deep trenches that have constant slope to move sewage along. These deep trenches are backfilled with gravel that tends to siphon away the groundwater and can dry up local wells and sensitive wetlands.

### TRENDS IN SUSTAINABLE WASTEWATER: 1) DECENTRALIZED 2) RESOURCE RECOVERY 3) BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT

Sustainable wastewater design strives to avoid the financial and environmental cost of centralized systems by treating the water closer to the source. Green building codes give credit to developers who treat their water and even reuse it before it leaves their property. By scrutinizing our “waste” we discover the valuable resources of water, energy and nutrients that could be recovered and reused.

Municipal sewage plants typically consume 30 percent or more of a city’s electricity. Newer technology exists that can make sewer treatment an energy producing endeavor. Reclaimed water can be used for non-potable uses like flushing toilets, irrigation and even food production. With many municipal sewer systems stretched to the limit, examples are multiplying—even in densely populated places like German cities—of buildings and communities going off the sewer grid and treating their own water. A variety of technologies exist for decentralized, onsite water treatment. Systems can vary greatly in their size, from single family to skyscraper and even municipal solutions. They can vary greatly in their cost, energy use and the degree to which they treat the water.

One of the most promising trends is biological treatment of water, using biomimicry to emulate how nature has evolved to purify water. Most sewage treatment plants use a limited

## WATER CONTINUED...



This LEED Gold certified “zero energy” home in Hailey is designed to produce as much solar electricity as it uses and to treat all of its grey and black water for reuse using Idaho’s first constructed wetland (foreground).

form of biological treatment where beneficial bacteria are used to process undesirable nutrients.

It turns out that naturally occurring wetlands can often do a superior job of this type of water purification. Engineered, or constructed wetlands, are increasingly being employed to intensify this process and create efficient, attractive low energy wastewater treatment systems. The EPA has been supporting this technology with design guidelines for nearly 30 years. Last year, the first two constructed wetlands in Idaho for treating residential wastewater were installed in the Wood River Valley. This year, a constructed wetland wastewater solution is being designed for the community of Triumph and several larger developments are considering them for their decentralized solutions.

Wastewater is a critical issue when evaluating both specific development projects and regional planning goals. Decentralized water treatment creates opportunities for developers and planners to turn a “waste” problem into sustainable resource recovery solutions.

Morgan Brown, Citizens for Smart Growth board President, Principal of Whole Water Systems  
John Grove, Principal Biologist

### Biology: Waste = Food

*If we could, we’d strike the word “wastewater” from the dictionary and replace it with something more appropriate—something along the lines of “nutrient-rich water.” We think of waste as something that has been used and lost all value. Yet, in the natural world, there is no such thing as waste. Anything used and cast off becomes food for something else. There is much we could learn from nature in our attitudes and treatment of human wastewater. When we treat wastewater, it turns out we are trying to reduce the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. As far as nature and biology are concerned, they’re good stuff—food for life. In normally occurring quantities and reasonable sanitation, it’s not a problem. It’s worth noting that the nutrients cast off in human urine roughly equals the \$150 billion we spend worldwide on synthetic fertilizer. So, in its natural form it’s waste and we spend a fortune to make it go “away?” But, when we spend a fortune to manufacture it from petroleum, it’s a vital agricultural resource? It isn’t hard to imagine a future where we get it, make the connection and close the loop, saving a buck and the planet.*

## Smart Growth is:



a community-based 501c3 nonprofit addressing growth issues within Blaine County. We work to preserve our natural assets: rural charm, open space, air and water quality, while encouraging economic prosperity.

Well-planned growth is built upon regional cooperation and led by transparent and fair government. In order to achieve smart growth we serve as your watchdog and your voice at the table by:

- examining pending developments and measuring them against smart growth principles and community values.
- meeting with developers. We help them mold projects into valuable community assets that align with smart growth principles and mitigate potential problems.
- advising local government.
- reporting on pertinent issues to our membership and the general public.
- working to codify smart growth principles into law.
- serving as a reliable and authoritative source of information about proposed developments.

Citizens for Smart Growth began in 1997 as a dedicated group of volunteers. Since inception, we have enjoyed the support of hundreds of community members. Today’s membership is 400 and growing.