



# Legal Notices

### Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Savery Little Snake River Conservancy District has accepted the work on the First Mesa Canal Diversion Structure replacement and channel modifications project, as completed by Willies Dirt Service, Inc. according to plans and design.

Payment is due the contractor at this time.

For any questions, or objections please contact: The Little Snake River Conservation District, 285 N. Penland, Baggs, Wyoming At (307) 383-7860, ext 11.

**Legal #6458**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 10, 17 and 24, 2014**

### MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE SARATOGA TOWN COUNCIL HELD DECEMBER 2, 2014, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE SARATOGA TOWN HALL

Mayor John Zeiger called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Councilman Steve Wilcoxson, Councilwoman Susan Howe and Councilwoman Judy Welton. Councilman Mike McWain was absent from the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Councilwoman Welton made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Lance Grubb under Items from the Public. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Councilwoman Howe made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2014 meeting as presented. Councilman Wilcoxson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:** Councilwoman Welton read the following bills for approval: Accounts Payable: \$16,689.02; Payroll and FICA for 12/1/14 in the amount of \$53,326.01; and manual checks in the amount of \$50,123.15, for a total of \$120,138.18.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to pay the bills as presented in the amount of \$120,138.18. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mayor Zeiger read a letter received from Vin Zachariah, Senior Vice President for Residential Services for Vyve Broadband stating that local residents may be seeing an increase in fees to allow Vyve to continue to carry local broadcast stations.

Clerk Cox was directed to contact Vyve Broadband and ask that a representative be here for the December 16th meeting to address the increase and issues that the town continues to have with the service and maintenance received from Vyve Broadband.

**ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:** Lance Grubb addressed the council concerning the recent accident involving his young child when he had been hit by a car that slid on the icy street. Mr. Grubb expressed his gratitude for the quick response of all involved. Mr. Grubb asked that the crews be mindful of the hills and plow and sand more often to assure that the streets are maintained when they are slick. A discussion followed and it was discussed that the other option would be to close that particular hill because it is not always practical to expect it to be maintained so that it was never slick. The hills are hard to maintain with ice slicer because it takes a certain temperature for the product to work properly and when it melts the snow and then the temperature drops the street becomes slick. It was noted that at one time that particular street had been closed and the children used it as a sledding hill because it had become hard to maintain safely.

Councilman Wilcoxson made a motion to close the street so that it will not become a hazard if it is not plowed and maintained as requested. The motion died for lack of a second.

Richard Hodges asked Chief Knickerbocker if the police department had body cameras that the officers use while on duty. Chief Knickerbocker responded by saying the department currently has small mini cams that the officers clip to their uniform. The problem

with these cameras is that they have a short battery life and recording time is limited. Purchasing the longer operating body cameras is very expensive and each officer does have a vehicle camera. Homeland Security funding was discussed for purchasing this type of equipment and it was noted that more federal regulations are attached to the federal funds and new guidelines regulate what these funds can be used for. Criteria has changed and will continue to change the way that federal funds are used and reporting requirements make it harder for smaller departments.

Mayor Zeiger (speaking as Carbon County Emergency Management) stated that these requirements have always been in place since the beginning of the grant cycles. However Homeland Security was always lenient with the sub-recipients in the past and didn't require the sub-grantees to be so diligent in grant reporting. Now that it is being required and those individuals are frustrated and don't like it. He added that even though FEMA's Whole Community Concept has been around forever they are expecting us to focus more on this concept in the upcoming Grant Cycle. The Whole Community includes those with special needs, faith based, schools, non-governmental partners, and many more. Homeland Security now expects us to include the Whole Community when doing our plans. There is also an expectation of Community Outreach, including training. Homeland Security does like to see a terroristic part, but also expects that other hazards including Natural and Manmade disasters will be addressed.

Additionally, in no way is Homeland Security trying to federalize the sub-recipients, all they are saying is "we are making these funds available to you." If you choose to receive them then there are certain requirements that you must meet." The Commission or the Council of every sub-recipient must sign of on the acceptance of the grants. Not only must they sign of on it but so must the department head that is receiving the grant. If any department head feels that it's not worth their time to follow the requirements then they, can ask their commissioners or councils not to accept the grant.

### REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:

**Town Hall:** Mayor Zeiger read the LGLP official ballot adding that the ballot is due no later than December 31, 2014. There are two positions that will be vacated January 1, 2015, the Special District position (3 year term) and the County Commission position (3 year term).

Councilwoman Welton made a motion to nominate Donna Geho to the Special District position, seconded by Councilwoman Howe. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion nominate Brad Basse for the unopposed County Commissioner position, seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson. The motion passed unanimously.

**Fire Department:** No report

**Police Department:** Police Chief Thomas Knickerbocker reported that he has two individuals interested in the Resource Officer position and will be interviewing as soon as possible.

Chief Knickerbocker explained that the Resource Grant continues through the end of May 2015 and as long as the town shows due diligence in trying to recruit an officer for that position the grant funding is secure. Chief Knickerbocker indicated that a past town treasurer neglected to make the appropriate draw downs by submitting the appropriate paperwork. Fortunately that individual is no longer employed by the town and when the issue was brought to the attention of the police department steps were taken to make the appropriate draw down in the amount of \$74,000.00 and the town was able to continue with grant program.

We have attempted to fill the position but it is difficult to bring someone in for a limited amount of time. Currently one local individual is interested in the position and if possible that individual could continue on a part-time basis after the resource officer's position was completed.

**Recreation Department:** Rec-

reation Director Lisa Burton reported that the Missoula Children's Theatre auditions were held December 1st with fifty-six children participating. The children will be practicing this week for the performances of The Pied Piper which will be Friday, December 5th at 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 6th at 2:00 p.m. at the Platte Valley Community Center. Other upcoming activities include the Jingle Bell Run on December 6th at 8:00 p.m. and Ladies Night Out on December 11th.

### Department of Public Works:

**Street Department:** Department of Public Works Supervisor Chuck Bartlett reminded the council of the River Study Committee workshop and the Public Hearing on the Platte River Restoration Project scheduled for Friday, December 05, 2014. The Committee workshop will be at 10:00 in the council chambers of the town hall and the Public Hearing will be at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Center Gymnasium.

Chuck Bartlett also reported that the town is having a beaver problem in the area around the hot pool and he has called the state Wildlife Services Specialist and was waiting for a call back to see what could be done.

**Water & Sewer:** Department of Public Works Supervisor Chuck Bartlett reported that the crews were working on the bridge near the hot pool and had completed the last of the concrete work for the bridge.

**Weed and Pest:** No Report

**Hot Pool:** No Report

### REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

**Airport Board:** The next Airport Board meeting will be on December 10, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

**Community Center Joint Powers Board:** The next meeting of the Community Center Joint Powers Board will be held Monday, December 8, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

**Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board:** Chuck Bartlett reminded the council and the public of the workshop for the Council and the Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board scheduled for Wednesday, December 3rd at 5 p.m. at the Saratoga Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to address sewer charges for mobile home parks and apartment buildings.

The next meeting of the Water and Sewer Joint Powers Board will be Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

**Landfill Board:** The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Saratoga.

**Medical Board:** No Report

**Planning Commission:** The next Planning Commission meeting will be Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

**Recreation Commission:** The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be Monday, December 8, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

**Community Garden Board:** The next meeting will be Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

**South Central Emergency Medical Services:** No Report.

**Executive Session:** Councilwoman Welton made a motion to go into executive session at 6:48 p.m. to discuss personnel and matters of litigation in accordance with W.S. 16-4-405(a) (ii) and (iii) seconded by Councilwoman Howe the motion carried unanimously. Mayors elect Ed J. Glode was asked to join the council in executive session. Clerk Suzie Cox and Police Chief Thomas Knickerbocker attended portions of the executive session. Councilwoman Welton made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:18 p.m. seconded by Councilman Wilcoxson and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Howe made a motion to seal the minutes from the executive session seconded by Councilwoman Welton and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zeiger reported there was no action taken.

**Adjournment:** Being no further business to come before the meeting, Councilwoman Welton made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 pm. Councilwoman Howe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the

Saratoga Town Council will be held on December 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Saratoga Town Hall.

John Zeiger, Mayor  
ATTEST: Suzie Cox, Town Clerk

**Legal #6460**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**

### Town of Saratoga Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2014 Manual Checks

Manual Checks	
Child Support Services	\$268.62
Child Support Services	\$134.77
Total	\$403.39
Payroll for 12/15/14	\$52,230.79
FICA for above payroll	\$12,664.77
Total	\$64,895.56
Accounts Payable	\$72,131.48
Manual Checks	\$403.39
Total	\$72,534.87
Total	\$137,430.43

**Legal #6461**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**

### Town of Saratoga Cash requirements report Check issue date 12/15/2014

Saratoga Do It Best	\$287.20
Carbon Power & Light, Inc.	\$16,146.25
Caselle Inc.	\$565.00
Galls, LLC	\$132.89
Hach Company	\$212.79
J H Kaspar Oil Co	\$2,665.21
Saratoga Aviation	\$455.00
Lariat International Trucks and Thompson	\$109.86
Macpherson, Kelly	\$2,132.00
Mobile Concrete	\$2,890.00
Mpm Corp	\$540.00
Secretary of State	\$30.00
One Call of Wyoming	\$39.75
Pitney Bowes	\$600.00
Saratoga Auto Parts	\$1,035.20
Saratoga Feed and Grain	\$30.50
Saratoga Sun, Inc	\$2,296.00
Saratoga C C J P B	\$150.00
Shivley Hardware	\$1,337.47
Union Telephone co	\$1,867.74
Upper Platte River Solid Waste	\$27,148.14
Valley Foods	\$782.90
Van's Wholesale, LLC	\$362.32
WCS Telecom	\$110.63
Wolf Hotel	\$124.252
Wyo Recreation and Parks Assoc.	\$50.00
Wyo Ssoco of Rural Water Syst	\$425.00
Xerox Corp	\$482.74
Skyline Motors, Inc	\$1,238.62
Platte Valley Arts Council	\$400.00
Carol Blake Caterpillar Financial Services	\$200.00
Outside loop	\$131.25
USA Bluebook	\$395.85
Candy Mountain	\$30.00
Richard Rideout P.C. Attorney	\$136.50
Iron J Towing	\$340.00
Stantec Consulting Services	\$5,048.87

**Legal #6462**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**

### Carbon County School District #2 December 2014 Bills List \$500.00 and over

VENDOR	AMOUNT
Adams Camp	2,850.00
Amazon.Com	1,667.49
Amundsen Associates, LLC	1,585.00
Apple Store	1,520.00
AVI Engineering	9,757.14
Brainpop	4,414.50
Bush-Wells Sporting Goods	5,163.47
Capital Business Systems Inc.	990.90
Carbon Power & Light Company	19,157.36
Central Restaurant Products	1,989.38
Chemsearch	953.40
Conoco Fleet	706.22
Cummins Rocky Mountain LLC	615.00
Days Inn-Casper	1,104.00
Dennis, Wayne	6,487.50
Dick Blick Company-Blick Art Materials	777.53
Don Johnston Incorporated	2,700.00
Elder Equipment Leasing, Inc.	1,712.29
Engineering Design Associates	550.00
FCCLA	695.00
Food Service of America	10,165.01
Forster Landscape & Construction, Inc.	825.00
Grainger Inc., W. W.	688.06
Ground Engineering Consultants	1,592.50
Grubb's Custom Builders	29,312.10
Health & Safety Unit WDE	1,104.38
High Plains Power, Inc.	548.83
Herold Iron Works	791.95
Hilton Hotel	3,344.22
-Salt Lake City	

Holiday Inn	515.98
- Casper Granite Peak	
Holiday Inn-Cody	1,106.00
Holiday Inn-Lander	669.22
Imprest Fund	1,754.31
- Erickson, Mike	
Imprest Fund	1,010.00
- Kari, Dale	
Jo-Ed Produce	798.95
Kaspar Oil Co, J.H.	2,689.75
Macpherson, Kelly & Thompson, LLC	1,103.00
Mary A Sjoden Living Trust	2,550.00
Meadow Gold Dairies	2,805.74
Medtronix	695.50
Microtel Inn & Suites - Cheyenne	593.91
MPM Corp Db a Evergreen Disposal	750.50
Norco	1,117.66
North Park Propane LLC	4,987.53
PCD Engineering Services, Inc.	3,723.00
Pederson, Susan	500.00
Peery Hotel	1,067.40
- Salt Lake City	
Perkins Oil Company	6,212.84
Pioneer	975.00
Platte River Therapy, LLC	10,569.20
Primus	502.45
Quality Inn & Suites - Casper	1,641.72
Ramada Plaza	596.00
Riverside-Casper	
Region V BOCES	45,130.10
Renaissance Learning	15,034.00
Ricoh USA	1,634.84
Rocky Mountain E-Waste	1,245.00
Rocky Mountain Power	10,504.85
Scambler, Douglas J. Ph. D.	4,431.40
Shively Hardware	1,933.86
Sinclair Oil Corp.	1,231.61
SourceGas, LLC	13,294.15
Town Of Encampment	644.00
Town Of Hanna	1,954.74
Town Of Saratoga	605.81
Union Telephone Company	4,919.89
Us Food Service	692.81
Valley Oil Company	8,264.29
Walmart	572.15
WYO FFA Association	590.00
WYO High School Activities Assoc.	889.75
WYO School Boards Association	1,620.00
WYO Steel & Recycling Iron/ Metals	3,267.91
X-Grain Sportswear	2,765.00

**Legal #6463**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**

### NOTICE OF CARBON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2 BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (BOCES) MEETINGS AND AVAILABILITY OF MINUTES (January - December 2015)

Notice is hereby given that regular meetings of the Carbon County School District No. 2 BOCES, State of Wyoming, are held on the **third Monday of each month January, March through June, and August through December; and on the third Wednesday of each month in February and July.** Meeting locations and times for 2015 are as follows:

- January - 3:00 p.m.** - Medicine Bow School; Medicine Bow, Wyoming
- February - 3:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- March - 3:00 p.m.** - Saratoga Middle/High School; Saratoga, Wyoming
- April - 3:00 p.m.** - H-E-M Jr/ Sr High School; Hanna, Wyoming
- May - 3:00 p.m.** - Elk Mountain School; Elk Mountain, Wyoming
- June - 5:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- July - 5:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- August - 5:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- September - 3:00 p.m.** - Saratoga Elementary School, Saratoga, Wyoming
- October - 3:00 p.m.** - Hanna Elementary School; Hanna, Wyoming
- November - 3:00 p.m.** - Encampment School; Encampment, Wyoming
- December - 3:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming

Such meetings are open to the public.

Notice is also given that official minutes of each regular or special meeting of such BOCES Board, including a record of all official acts and of all warrants issued, are available for inspection by any citizen during regular office hours at the Office of the BOCES Clerk of said Carbon County School District No. 2 at 315 North First Street, Saratoga, Wyoming.

s- Diana Berger  
Chairman, BOCES Board

**Legal #6464**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**





# Legal Notices

## NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS AND AVAILABILITY OF MINUTES (January – December 2015)

Notice is hereby given that regular meetings of the Board of Trustees of Carbon County School District No. 2, State of Wyoming, are held on the **third Monday of each month January, March through June and August through December; and on the third Wednesday of each month in February and July.** Meeting locations

and times for 2015 are as follows:

- January – 4:00 p.m.** - Medicine Bow School; Medicine Bow, Wyoming
- February – 4:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- March – 4:00 p.m.** - Saratoga Middle/High School; Saratoga, Wyoming
- April – 4:00 p.m.** - H-E-M Jr/Sr High School; Hanna, Wyoming
- May – 4:00 p.m.** - Elk Mountain School; Elk Mountain, Wyoming

- June – 6:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- July – 6:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- August – 6:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming
- September – 4:00 p.m.** - Saratoga Elementary School; Saratoga, Wyoming
- October – 4:00 p.m.** - Hanna Elementary School; Hanna, Wyoming

- November – 4:00 p.m.** - Encampment School; Encampment, Wyoming
- December – 4:00 p.m.** - Central Administration Office; Saratoga, Wyoming

Such meetings are open to the public.

Notice is also given that official minutes of each regular or special meeting of such Board, including a record of all official acts and of all warrants issued,

are available for inspection by any citizen during regular office hours at the Office of the Clerk of said Carbon County School District No. 2 at 315 North First Street, Saratoga, Wyoming.

s- Diana Berger  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Carbon County School District No. 2

**Legal #6465**  
**Published in the Saratoga Sun**  
**Dec. 24, 2014**

## NOTICE TO APPROPRIATORS OF WATER

Public notice is hereby given that the following listed water users have submitted proofs of appropriation and/or construction under the following permits as approved by the State Engineer. The below-listed proofs of appropriation or construction will be held open for public inspection from January 5 through January 9, 2015, during the hours of 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., at the following location(s): State Water Office, 510 West 27th Avenue, Torrington, Wyoming; and State Engineers Office, Herschler Building 4E, 122 West 25th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Any person claiming a water right interest in the same sources of supply to which the below-advertised proofs refer may inform the Water Division Superintendent of his/her desire to contest the rights of the person or persons seeking adjudication. The statement of contest shall be presented within fifteen days after the closing of the public inspection and shall state with reasonable certainty the grounds of the contest. The statement must be verified by the sworn affidavit of the contestant, his/her agent or attorney. If no contest is initiated as allowed by Section 41-4-312, Wyoming Statutes, 1977, the advertised proofs will be submitted to the State Board of Control for consideration during its meeting beginning on February 2, 2015, with the Division Superintendent's recommendation that certificates of appropriation or construction be issued.

CLAIMANT	PERMIT NO.	FACILITY	PRIORITY DATE	SOURCE OF SUPPLY	AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION	USE(S)
Water Valley River Ranch, LLC	34259D	Water Valley Ranch No. 2 Ditch	June 18, 2009	South Fork Grand Encampment River, trib. Grand Encampment River, trib. North Platte River	4.8 Acres Original Supply	Irrigation
Water Valley River Ranch, LLC	34260D	Water Valley Ranch Pipeline	June 18, 2009	South Fork Grand Encampment River, trib. Grand Encampment River, trib. North Platte River	7.3 Acres Original Supply	Irrigation
Little Snake River Conservation District; USDI BLM	12023R	Loco Creek Reservoir	Mar. 25, 2003	Old Loco Creek, trib. Loco Creek, trib. Savery Creek, trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	28.17 Acre-Feet	Stock, Wildlife
Ark Land Company	16SR	Headquarters Stock Reservoir	June 30, 1941	Second Sand Creek, trib. Third Sand Creek, trib. Medicine Bow River, trib. North Platte River	12.75 Acre-Feet	Stock
Ark Land Company	2175SR	Fiddler Green Stock Reservoir	Feb. 11, 1958	First Sand Creek, trib. Allen Lake, trib. Medicine Bow River, trib. North Platte River	12.85 Acre-Feet	Stock
Hi-Allen Ranch, LLC	2174SR	Washout Stock Reservoir	Feb. 11, 1958	First Sand Creek, trib. Allen Lake, trib. Medicine Bow River, trib. North Platte River	5.11 Acre-Feet	Stock
Mikesell, Thomas Wayne	2413SR	Daugherty Stock Reservoir	Sept. 26, 1958	Daugherty Draw, trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	2.93 Acre-Feet	Stock
Medicine Bow Inc.	3062SR	Road Gulch Draw Stock Reservoir	Jan. 4, 1960	Road Gulch Draw, trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	3.70 Acre-Feet	Stock
Brush Creek Ranch, LLC	3173SR	Francis Draw Stock Reservoir	Feb. 15, 1960	Francis Draw, trib. Brush Creek, trib. North Platte River	2.70 Acre-Feet	Stock
Brush Creek Ranch, LLC	3174SR	Jim Draw Stock Reservoir	Feb. 15, 1960	Jim Draw, trib. Brush Creek, trib. North Platte River	3.10 Acre-Feet	Stock
Silver Spur Land and Cattle, LLC	8168SR	Manning Draw Stock Reservoir	Dec. 8, 1976	Manning Draw, trib. South Fork Miner Creek, trib. Miner Creek, trib. South Fork Grand Encampment River, trib. Grand Encampment River, trib. North Platte River	3.00 Acre-Feet	Stock
Tetrad Corporation	11038SR	Welton Pond Stock Reservoir	Jan. 28, 1991	Welton Draw, trib. Pass Creek, trib. North Platte River	8.02 Acre-Feet	Stock
Adams, Stephen F. and Carolyn L.	17170SR	Adams Stock Reservoir	Apr. 21, 2005	Pole Draw, trib. Four Mile Creek, trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	9.31 Acre-Feet	Stock
Reidy, Terrence M. and Maureen T.	19411SR	RAL 1 Stock Reservoir	Aug. 20, 2010	RAL Draw, trib. Sheet Draw, trib. Willow Creek (15-12-87), trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	0.04 Acre-Feet	Stock
Reidy, Terrence M. and Maureen T.	19412SR	RAL 2 Stock Reservoir	Aug. 20, 2010	RAL Draw, trib. Sheet Draw, trib. Willow Creek (15-12-87), trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	0.07 Acre-Feet	Stock
Reidy, Terrence M. and Maureen T.	19413SR	RAL 3 Stock Reservoir	Aug. 20, 2010	Sheet Draw, trib. Willow Creek (15-12-87), trib. Little Snake River, trib. Yampa River, trib. Green River	0.08 Acre-Feet	Stock

BRIAN PUGSLEY, SUPERINTENDENT, WATER DIVISION I, 510 WEST 27TH AVENUE, TORRINGTON, WYOMING 82240 • (307) 532-2248

**Legal #6466** Published in the Saratoga Sun Dec. 24, 2014

# INSURANCE *Winter Fires*



## SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOME

Wyoming Insurance Commissioner Tom Hirsig wants to alert consumers about winter fires. As Wyoming heads into another long winter season, people turn to alternative methods to keep warm. A number of chimney fires has already been reported this year and the Department of Insurance is offering fire prevention tips to help you avoid fires caused by heating elements. You may also want to contact local fire stations to ask for more information. Many home heating fires are caused by portable heaters and space heaters. Gas heaters and kerosene heaters account for the highest risk of fatalities in home heating-related fires; however, all heating systems, including fireplaces, can be dangerous if not used and maintained properly.

**Vents and Chimneys.** All fueled heaters must be vented to prevent dangerous carbon monoxide build-up. Creosote and carbon deposits can coat chimney flues and pose a fire hazard. Have a professional inspect your chimney before each heating season and have it cleaned if necessary. If you use a wood stove, have the flues and chimney connections inspected and cleaned regularly.

**Give Space Heaters Space.** Keep all combustible materials away from portable and space heaters. Place heaters at least three feet away from furniture, curtains, or anything that burns. Turn off space heaters when you leave home or go to bed.

**Liquid Fuel Safety.** If your space heater burns a liquid fuel, such as kerosene, let the heater cool down before refueling it. Adding fuel to a hot heater can cause fumes to ignite. Refuel your heater outside in a well-ventilated area away from structures. Use only fuel recommended by your heater's manufacturer.

**Gas-Fueled Heaters.** Check vents to make sure they aren't blocked. Never install unvented gas heaters in bedrooms or bathrooms. Carbon monoxide can build up to dangerous levels in any small, enclosed space.

**Wood or Coal Stoves.** Place an approved stove board under wood or coal stoves to protect the floor from heat and stray embers.

**Fireplaces.** Protect your home from sparks by using a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass.

**Electric Heaters.** Inspect electric heater cords for cracks or other damage and have an electrician replace frayed, cracked or damaged cords.

**Central Heating Systems.** Have your furnace, chimneys, and chimney connections inspected and serviced at least once a year by a qualified professional.

For more information about issues dealing with your insurance, please contact the Wyoming Department of Insurance at (307) 777-7401 or toll free in Wyoming at (800) 438-5768 and online at <http://insurance.state.wy.us>.



**Wyoming Insurance Department**  
<http://doi.wyo.gov>  
**1 (800) 438-5768**

This public service announcement is presented and paid for by the insurance companies licensed to do business in Wyoming in cooperation with the Wyoming Insurance Department. For more information on the state's insurance companies, including financial information, visit the Insurance Department website's "Company Financial Information" section.