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November 2017

Ennis Chamber of Commerce Newsletter



You may have already seen the below article in the newspaper in October, but I wanted to share it with you again. For those of you that know me well, you know I am a big fan of recycling and have been trying for several years to drastically reduce the amount of plastic in my life (this is REALLY hard!). I think the most important thing is to start small and for some people that may be just actually thinking about it. I don't like to push my opinions or beliefs on others, but I ask that you just take a second to think about how much waste you as an individual produce. Have you enjoyed a beverage in a disposable plastic bottle today? How many did you have this week? Last month? This year? If they went in the trash, where do they go? What happens to them? How long do they stay there? Apply those same thoughts to your household garbage. If you start to think about how much waste you produce, your household produces, our town produces, our county produces, our state produces, and our country produces on an annual basis, it can get a bit overwhelming and hopefully that is what causes you to make small changes. Could you reduce that waste if you recycled and maybe composted?

Start small! Go into one of our local shops and get yourself a pretty, reusable water bottle and a trendy tote bag for your groceries. Once you start doing it, it becomes routine! And take advantage of our wonderful recycling facilities throughout the county, which we are very lucky to have.

~Abi King



RECYCLING IS IMPORTANT

By Rebecca Ramsey, former Ruby Watershed Coordinator

While the "three Rs" is not a new concept, the majority of Americans are still just tossing all their trash away. Reducing your waste, Reusing products in some way and Recycling things like plastic, cardboard, paper and aluminum is one of the best ways for you to have a positive impact on the world in which we live.

As stewards of this earth, we must try to be conscious and proactive, as the amount of waste humans create is increasing all the time. Recycling can be as easy as tossing something in the waste bin if you set it up well. You will feel good about being resourceful, for keeping one less thing from going to the dump and for saving your county (and subsequently, yourself) money in tipping fees.

The amount of rubbish we create is constantly increasing because we are in a vicious cycle of consumerism. Increasing wealth means that people are buying more products, and ultimately creating more waste. An increasing human population means that there are more people on the planet to create trash. New packaging and technological products are being developed constantly, and much of these products contain materials that are not biodegradable.

Recycling is very important, as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from the trash in landfill sites. Reusing packaging whenever possible or recycling goods helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste.

QUICK LINKS

www.ennischamber.com
www.southwestmt.com
www.visitmt.com
www.virginiacity.com
www.ennismontana.org
www.backroadtoyellowstone.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out the Chamber's [event calendar](#) or [Norris Hot Springs, Gravel Bar, and Willie's Distillery](#) websites for details on live music every week!

Ennis Town Commission Meeting November 9, 7 PM at Ennis Town Hall.

Gallery 287 Grand Opening November 10, 5:30 to 8 PM,
50 MT Hwy 287, Unit C (next to Trenz).

Madison Valley Ranch Autumn Wine Dinners November 10 & 11 at 7 PM Call 406-682-7822 or email mvr@3rivers.net to reserve your spot!

Madison Valley Medical Center Cancer Support Group November 14 (second Tuesday of every month), 6 PM to 7:30 PM. Cancer survivors, newly diagnosed cancer patients, and family and friends are welcome at Moonlight Basin Building. Contact: Lisa Brubaker 406-670-4546.

Warren Miller's Line of Descent-Presented by Friends of the Library

November 30, 5:30 and 8 PM showings. Tickets bought in advance are \$15, and \$20 at the door the day of. Tickets can be purchased at the Madison Valley Public Library and at the Madison Theatre. There will be a cash bar and proceeds will go to Madison Valley Public Library. <http://www.skinet.com/warrenmiller/events/madison-theatre>

2017 Chamber Board

John Way - President (The Tackle Shop)
K Mita - Vice President (Braggin' Rights Guns)
Amanda Nelsen - Treasurer (Agency Insurance)
Bill Mercer (RE/Max Mountain Property)
Russ Whitacre (Ennis Lions Club)
Shanna Swanson (Shanna Mae Photography)

possible of recycling goods helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste. Recycling reduces the need for raw materials so that the rainforests (where so many raw materials are harvested) can be preserved. The destruction of wildlife habitat, increased use of fossil fuels and climate change are some of the effects of deforestation. Huge amounts of energy are used when making products from raw materials, while recycling requires much less energy and therefore helps to preserve natural resources.

Recycling is essential to cities around the world and to the people living in them - there is literally no space for waste. Our landfill sites are filling up fast, and no one wants a new landfill in their backyard. Incinerating causes air pollution. Our waterways and oceans are littered with trash and chemicals. Reducing your trash however you can, reusing what you can and recycling what you can will make a difference!

Most importantly, reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling can preserve natural resources for future generations. And, it is easy if you try. Yes, you need to rinse out containers... but you wash your dishes, so it does not take any longer to rinse out a receptacle before you toss it in the bin. And tossing it in a bin is not any harder than tossing it in the trash can. I have boxes labeled and sitting on shelves in my mudroom to eliminate sorting time at the transfer station.

In Madison County, we recycle #1 and #2 plastics, cardboard, paper, aluminum and tin. Receptacles for recycling are all over the county to make it easy for you. Our county is very conservative, so you know they would not have recycling available if it was not economically worthwhile... in addition to being the right thing to do. You may call the Madison County Sanitarians office at 843-4275 for questions about recycling.

Do the right thing, the easy thing and the positive thing.
Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!

Danica Lewis (Black Diamond Estate Services)
 Lisa Carruthers (McAllister Inn and Lodging)

Event Calendars

For the most up to date activities and events during the month please visit the below links. If you have events that you would like to be added to the Chamber events calendar, please send them to: info@ennischamber.com

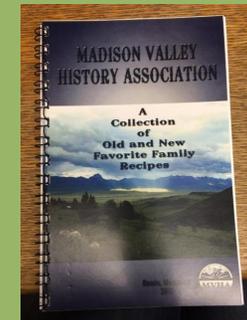
www.ennischamber.com

<http://www.southwestmt.com/calendarofevents/>

www.outpostevents.net

Chamber Merchandise Sale Items:

We have various products from our local non-profits and T shirts from previous events. Stop by the Chamber to check them out.



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH RECYCLING?

America Recycles Day - November 15, 2017

JOIN US FOR A PANEL PRESENTATION AND Q&A SESSION WITH YOUR LOCAL RECYCLING EXPERTS



- What can we recycle? Where does it go?
- Why can't we recycle glass?
- What does the recycling market look like internationally?
- What is recycling like from a manufacturing perspective?

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

11:30am - 12:30pm

Bozeman Public Library, Large Community Room

Refreshments provided



PANEL WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM REPUBLIC SERVICES, FOUR CORNERS RECYCLING

SERVICES, DONOR RECEIVING,
GALLATIN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT,
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND WEST PAW DESIGN

RSVP recommended

RSVP to CGreen5@republicservices.com or
(406) 582-6659 by November 14th



EVENT ORGANIZED AND SPONSORED BY REPUBLIC SERVICES

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS- November 2



MADISON VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER

Madison Valley Medical Center will be hosting the November 2nd Business After Hours in the Main Lobby (South Entrance) of the Hospital, 5 to 7 PM. Come meet the staff, take a tour of the hospital, mix, and mingle. Bring plenty of business cards, enjoy refreshments and door prizes. Food, Beer and wine provided by the Pic-A-Nic Basket.

This is a FREE networking event open to all Chamber members and their guests (be sure to bring a friend!). Come visit, talk shop, share news in the area, and exchange business cards and brochures!

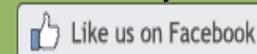


Ennis Chamber Cash

Keep it local by using the Ennis Chamber of Commerce's "Chamber Cash" which is specially designed anti-copy currency produced in \$5, \$10 and \$20 denominations and can be used at any one of the participating businesses for full face value. It's like a gift card to the town of Ennis! You may purchase and get reimbursed for Chamber Cash at the Chamber Visitor Center.



Remember to like us on Facebook and to check us out for community and event updates!



You can pay membership and purchase merchandise on line at the chamber website and pay with credit card via PayPal.

44th Annual Holiday Bazaar

ARTS, CRAFTS, FOOD ITEMS, WREATHS
& MUCH MORE

SHOP LOCALLY & SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

VENDOR BOOTH SPACE

www.madisonvalleywomansclub.org

- SELECT MENU
- GET INVOLVED
- HOLIDAY BAZAAR

OR, Call Lynn 599-3120

November 25, 2017 9:00 - 3:00
Ennis Elementary School . Charles Street

Get into the holiday spirit with the annual Madison Valley Women's Club Holiday Bazaar. Support local artisans and the Madison Valley community by doing your shopping locally! Wide variety of baked

goods, wreaths, handcrafted jewelry, soaps, candles, quilts and much more. Crafts, food, and fun!



The Spirit or Christmas Stroll-December 8

The Spirit of Christmas Stroll is right around the corner! This Chamber hosted event includes opportunities for Chamber members and non Chamber members alike.

1. MAIN STREET BUSINESS HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST: The Ennis Chamber of Commerce encourages Main Street businesses to go all out with your Christmas decorations! The evening of the stroll, 3 judges will peruse the holiday decorations and pick a winning business by 5 PM. The winning display will receive the Ennis Chamber of Commerce traveling trophy and bragging rights! No entry required.

2. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: There is a lot going on for everyone during the Spirit of Christmas Stroll. Chamber Members, send me your event **no later than November 30** to get it on a Schedule of Events that we will distribute before and during the Christmas Stroll. *Please email me the following: your business name, location, time frame, and concise description of your event.*

3. ICE SCULPTURE CONTEST: All businesses are encouraged to participate in the ice sculpting contest! The participation fee is \$80 and includes 1 250 lb block of ice (40" tall x 10" thick x 19" wide) and a solar powered light to illuminate your masterpiece. 1" chisels will be provided to all participants thanks to the Ennis Lumber Company and each participant is responsible for their own stand. **More details will be sent out soon**, but I wanted to get your creative juices flowing! In addition, ice sculpting guru Corey Gransbery will be in Lions Club Park the morning of December 8 to provide some instruction on ice sculpting.

4.PRIZES! We need your donated items for prizes! There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners for the ice sculpting contest, which all receive a gift basket assembled with your donated items. No donation is too small...or too big! Bring them by the Chamber Visitors Center **no later than December 1** or give me a call and I will come by and pick them up.

5. BUTTON/ORNAMENT: As in previous years, we will be working with Ennis Schools to have the kids enter an art contest to compete for their art to be showcased on this year's Christmas Stroll button. This year, we will be adding to the buttons so that they can be used as an ornament as well! They will be for sale for \$2 at the Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center and other participating businesses. **If you have an interest in selling the buttons at your business, please let me know ASAP.**

6. HORSE DRAWN WAGON HAY RIDE - CHAMBER MEMBER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES! Elk River Outfitters will be here again with their beautiful horses for a fun hay ride up and down Main Street from 4 to 6 PM. The wagon offers space for popcorn, banners from 2 Chamber

4 to 8 PM. The wagon offers space for sponsor banners from 3 Chamber members. Get your business' banner on a side or the back of the wagon for \$400 and help us make the hay ride possible every year. **First come/first served and first pick of banner location.** Businesses must supply their own banner (not to exceed 7' long and 2' 10" high).

HTTPS and Your Website

Why Your Website Needs An SSL Certificate

As we know by now, Google writes a lot of the rules when it comes to your website and its position in search results. Your website must be mobile friendly, it must have descriptive text and images, and lately, Google is giving preferential search positioning to sites with HTTPS protocol.

So What is HTTPS?

According to [Wikipedia](#), "HTTPS is a communications protocol for secure communication over a computer network which is widely used on the Internet. HTTPS consists of communication over Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) within a connection encrypted by Transport Layer Security, or its predecessor, Secure Sockets Layer (SSL). The main motivation for HTTPS is authentication of the visited website and protection of the privacy and integrity of the exchanged data."

What is an SSL Certificate?

An SSL certificate is a digital certificate that authenticates the identity of a website and encrypts information sent to the server.

OK, But What Does it Mean For My Website?

If you have an online store, take reservations, collect email addresses, or if you collect any personal information, your website should be encrypted with an SSL Certificate. The SSL Certificate verifies to the user that your website is genuine and the information they share with you is secure. With Google giving preferential search positioning to sites with the https protocol, adding an SSL certificate to your site is necessary.

How Do I Get an SSL Certificate?

There are numerous places on the internet to purchase SSL certificates, and the prices can vary widely. Often your web hosting company can sell you a certificate and set it up for you. Another option is work with your webmaster to set up the certificate for your site and set up a 301 redirect to point visitors and search engines to the secure pages.

Other Things to Note

Just a couple more things.... Be sure to set your Google Analytic reporting to reflect the change from http to https in the admin section. Also, in Google's search console, set the preferred version of your web address to reflect the change. Sorry to be brief with the extra things to note. [Feel free to ask questions on this topic here!](#)

Lisa Savard
Savard Hospitality Consulting



Montana Department of LABOR & INDUSTRY

Employers qualify for tax credits for hiring certain job seeker populations, but to qualify, applications must be submitted within 28 days of hire. Does your business qualify for tax credits? Call [Job Service Bozeman](#) at 406-582-9200.

Job Service is a proud member of the Ennis Chamber of Commerce!