

RELOCATION GUIDE FOR LAVA HOT SPRINGS, IDAHO

HISTORY

Lava Hot Springs is a community rich in western history. The abundance of natural resources in the region, such as the odor-free mineral hot springs, plentiful wildlife, and water supplies has attracted many to the area.

Before settlers discovered the natural hot waters of Lava, the proud Indian nation of the Bannock-Shoshone Tribes gathered at the original site of the mineral springs to bathe, rest, and worship the Great Spirit. Trappers and explores were the first white men to discover the hot mineral springs. Bob Dempsey, a squaw man, was the best known fur trapper to settle in the area. In the 1880's, the first white settlement, Dempsey, was a small farming community named after this well-known trapper. The first permanent white settler was Charlie Potter.

The Oregon Shortline Railroad that reached Montpelier in 1882 came through this valley about a year later. The present town site of Lava was homesteaded in 1890 by John Hall; he filed the plat in 1911 under the name of "Hall City". On July 24, 1915 the village was incorporated and named Lava Hot Springs. Every year we celebrate the birth of the city with a parade and a fireworks display off the cliff on the mountain overlooking the community.

In 1936 a fire broke out in town destroying one entire city block. In the years 1962-63 the pools and many private businesses suffered extensive flood damage from the Portneuf River. The citizens of Lava Hot Springs have maintained the dauntless spirit of their pioneer ancestors.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Lava Hot Springs is a small, picturesque tourist town nestled in the Rocky Mountains. The Portneuf River winds its way lazily through the center of the valley. Here lies our quiet, peaceful community. Lava has a friendly neighborhood feeling where the grocery clerks know your name, and you know theirs. Our schools are high quality and not crowded. Lava is truly one of the best small towns in America. Lava Hot Springs is certified by the Idaho Department of Commerce as a Gem Community.

Our residents have a strong sense of community and take pride in the town and its historical heritage. There are about 481 people that live within the city limits, while about another 500 live within 5 miles of the city.

The most constant thing about Lava is the hot water, which stays about 110 degrees summer, fall, winter, and spring. Vacationers enjoy the hot pools, Olympic-size swimming pool and float the Portneuf River. In addition there is a nine-hole golf course near town, various picnic sites, fishing ponds, and city parks to enjoy.

Lava is centrally located to the larger communities of Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Logan, UT and 2 hours to Salt Lake City. It's also 2½ hours to Jackson Hole, WY, and 3½ hours to Yellowstone National Park along the scenic route. Lava Hot Springs provides small town living with easy access to big town amenities when you want them.

Located along the Portneuf River, the town offers a central location to a large array of outdoor recreation with the Caribou National Forest and numerous other public lands and reservoirs in close proximity. Rich in history and scenic beauty, Lava is worth visiting and is a wonderful place to live. There is plenty of room to grow for family and new business.

CITY GOVERNMENT

The City of Lava Hot Springs has a mayor-council form of government with city elected officials working on a volunteer basis. Elected officials serve four-year terms. Regular City Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month of the year beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Information

Address: City of Lava Hot Springs, 115 West Elm St., Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246

Mailing Address: City of Lava Hot Springs, PO Box 187, Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246-0187

Phone: 208-776-5820

Fax: 208-776-5130

E-mail Address: lavahotspingscity@gmail.com

Internet Site: <http://lavahotspingscity.com>

Office Hours: M-F, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Organization

Mayor –

Council President – Jon Thomson

Council – Brian P. Hinz

Council – Lisa Guthrie

Council – Rickey Frandsen

Public Works Supervisor - Tony Hobson

Maintenance Personnel – Justin Casperson

City Clerk / Treasurer - Canda L. Dimick

Office Assistant – Amantha Sierra

Code Enforcement / Animal Control Officer –

Fire Chief – Ken Fagnant

Planning Services

Comprehensive Plan YES

Zoning Ordinance YES

Building Permit System YES

Subdivision Ordinance YES

Planned Unit Development Ordinance YES

Territory Covered by Zoning YES

Municipality YES

County YES

LAND USE - ZONING CLASSIFICATIONS

(See Zoning Map at City Hall or <http://lavahotspringscity.com/Documents/Zoning%20Update%203-2-11%208.pdf>)

Lava Hot Springs has a zoning ordinance in place, last updated in 1983. The following is a brief description of each land use type within the city's ordinance. You can move down the scale, but not up the scale: e.g. R can be built in C, but C can't be put in R without zoning change.

For those **outside of the city limits**, please refer to Bannock County Zoning Ordinances at: <http://www.co.bannock.id.us/zoning/index.htm>

Residential 2 - This combined residential zone is to provide medium density residential development well designed and properly located in the community pattern adjacent to shopping, recreation, cultural and other community facilities. Uses in this zone include single-family dwelling; home occupation; schools; churches; two-family and multi-family dwellings; and accessory uses.

Residential 3 - Provides for medium to high density residential development. This type of zoning pattern is intended to create transition area and buffer zones between commercial areas and low density residential development. It is also intended to permit higher density activities adjacent to more intensive community use areas. Uses in this zone include those uses allowed in the R-2 zone; multiple-family dwellings; boarding and rooming house; convalescent home; nursing home; rest home; elderly housing; hospital; club and lodge of a service and fraternal character; and nursery school.

Commercial 1 - Provides distinct zones regulated to provide local commercial service needs and to restrict incompatible uses which may be better located in community or highway oriented shopping areas due to the size of the shopping center location within the community, and residential neighborhood areas being served in other factors. Uses allowed included retail stores, personal service shops, banks, offices, hotels, motels, restaurants; clinics; commercial and private off-street parking lots; nursery schools, school for students of art, dramatics, dancing, music, business or secretarial work; government or public utility facilities of a non-industrial character; indoor theater, mortuaries; automobile service station; boarding and rooming houses; radio, television and FM broadcasting stations; signs including outdoor advertising; and accessory uses.

Commercial 2 - Provides a distinct zone regulated to fulfill general shopping center retail needs and travel or highway related service requirements within the community. Uses in this zone included those uses allowed in the C-1 Zone, automobile sales lot surface; automobile sales and service; trailer sales and rental; club and lodge; bowling alley, dance hall or similar commercial establishment as for public gathering and recreational use; travel-trailer park; taverns and lounges; and accessory uses.

CITY SERVICES

Ambulance/Sheriff (emergencies only) 911
Sheriff Department (all other inquiries) 208-236-7114
Fire Department (emergencies only) 911

City of Lava Hot Springs
115 West Elm St,
Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246
208-776-5820 FAX 776-5130

UTILITIES

Lava's electric needs are served by Rocky Mountain Power Company, while natural gas is supplied by Intermountain Gas Company. Adequate capacity presently exists for both electricity and natural gas. CenturyLink provides telephone service and Independent Cable Services (a.k.a. Direct Communications) provides cable TV service.

Water is supplied by the City of Lava Hot Springs. The system's capacity and supply are adequate to meet the community's expected growth for several years. In order to ensure that the City of Lava is prepared for economic growth well into the future, the city is in the process of drilling a new well. The city has a sanitary sewer system. The city's sewer system has been updated and is adequate to meet the expected growth for several years. Fees for sewer and water hookup will be per resolution.

Cable TV - Independent Cable System of Idaho – 208-547-4341, <http://www.directcom.com/>

Satellite TV - Direct TV <http://www.directv.com> 888-866-3008 or
Dish Network <http://www.dishnetwork.com> 800-652-7947

Electricity - Rocky Mountain Power Company – 1-888-221-7070
<http://www.rockymountainpower.net/index.html>

Natural Gas - Intermountain Gas Company -1-800-548-3679,
<http://www.intgas.com/index1.html>

Water & Sewer - City of Lava Hot Springs - Tony Hobson 208-776-5820

Telephone Service - CenturyLink 1-800-244-1111, <http://www.centurylink.com/>

Lava Cemetery - Tom & Renee McBride 208-776-5532

Lava Public School 208-776-5281, http://lava_el.mvsd21.org/

Senior Citizen Services 208 776-5569

United States Post Office 208-776-5680, NOTE: Not all residents within the city limits have a PO Box, and not all residents outside of the city limits have rural delivery. Please visit the Post Office to determine if you will need a PO Box or if your mail will be on the rural routes.

WATER SERVICE

1. Single Occupant - Standard Meter

The Base water Rate for a single City standard water meter is \$30.00 per month.

The Volumetric Rate for any water consumed is \$0.60 per 1,000 gallons of water.

The Total Monthly Water Rate is the total of the Base Water Rate and the Volumetric Rate as calculated above.

2. Single Occupant - Non Standard meter

The Non Standard Base Water Rate is based on the size of the existing or requested new water meter. This rate is determined by comparing the City’s standard water meter orifice area to the water user’s requested water meter orifice area. This comparison would yield an Adjustment Factor, which is then multiplied to the previously defined Base Water Rate. The Adjustment Factors and Rates are as follows:

<u>Water Meter Size</u>	<u>Orifice Area</u>	<u>Adjustment Factor</u>	<u>Monthly Rate</u>	<u>Price Per 1,000 Gal. Above Monthly Rate Allowance</u>
5/8 or ¾ in.	0.44 sq. in.	1.0	\$30	\$0.60
1 inch	0.79 sq. in.	1.8	\$46	\$0.60
1½ inch	1.77 sq. in.	4.0	\$90	\$0.60
2 inch	3.14 sq. in.	7.0	\$150	\$0.60
3 inch	7.07 sq. in.	16.0	\$330	\$0.60
4 inch	12.57 sq. in.	28.0	\$570	\$0.60

3. Available Water Supply Fee - \$15.00 per month.

4. The rates charged water users outside city limits shall be 1.5 times the rate charged users within the city limits.

Water Service Connection Fees:

Service Connection Fees shall be determined based on the initial size of the water meter as follows:

5/8 inch - \$1,000	¾ inch - \$1,200	1 inch - \$1,500
1½ inch - \$2,000	3 inch - \$6,000	4 inch - \$10,000

SEWER HOOKUPS

Mandatory Hookup

Every parcel of land or premises within the boundaries of the City of Lava Hot Springs, improved for occupancy and occupied or used by any person or persons, shall be connected to the public sanitary sewer system provided that connection to the sanitary sewer system from inflow (storm drain) sources, outflow hot tub (natural baths) source or ground water infiltration into the sanitary sewer system shall neither be required or permitted.

Connection Fees:

- 4” line \$1,000.00
- 8” line \$2,000.00

Any special connections not covered by this schedule, including users outside the City, shall have connection fees set by the Mayor and City Council in each individual situation.

The connection fees are for the privilege of connecting the service to the city sewer. All charges associated with the laying of pipe from the homes or facilities to be served to said city mains shall be borne by the property owner. All such connections to the city’s mains shall be properly designed and constructed in conformity with requirements specified by the city including asphalt repair.

Current sewer rate

\$31.00 per equivalent user.

GARBAGE SERVICE

The City has a contract with MR&E from Soda Springs to provide garbage pick up services within the city limits on Thursdays of each week. 208-547-4082

Current rates

Residential Customers	-	90 gallon can	-	\$13.39
Commercial Customers	-	90 gallon can	-	\$17.77
		350 gallon can	-	\$42.18

BANNOCK COUNTY RESOURCES

For other resources provided by Bannock County, please refer to the official Internet site at: <http://www.co.bannock.id.us/index.htm>

CITY, COUNTY, & STATE TAXES

Property Tax

City of Lava Hot Springs Levy (FY 2011)	0.003534866
Bannock County Levy (FY 2011)	0.004821020
School District #21 Levy (FY 2011)	0.002216803
Lava Cemetery (FY 2011)	0.000094451
South Bannock Library (FY 2011)	0.000632218
County Road & Bridge (FY 2011)	0.000406404
Ambulance (FY 2011)	0.000241361
<u>Abatement</u>	<u>0.000130555</u>
Total (FY 2011)	0.012077678

More property tax information can be found at Bannock County's property tax FAQs at:
<http://www.co.bannock.id.us/auditor/propertytaxes.html>

State Sales Tax = 6%

City Non-Property Tax

Retail	2%
(Grocery items, building materials, and motor vehicle leases exempt)	
Liquor by the drink	2%
Lodging	3%

State Individual Income Tax

3.6% to 7.8%

Maximum (7.8%) is reached at \$24,978 for singles and \$53,156 for married couples filing jointly.

HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS

HOUSING

The Lava Hot Springs area offers a variety of home purchasing opportunities. Most selections are in the middle value range of homes with 2-4 bedrooms and some with garage and basement. Some higher value homes are available in the area. Lots and land are available within the city and the city impact area for new construction.

Contact the following local realtors for current housing availability.

Remax Country Real Estate, Inc. Becky Delbridge 812 East Clark St, Suite G Pocatello, ID 83201 208-234-4444 or 339-0444 http://www.eastidahorealtor.com/becky@beckydelbridge.com	The Home Specialists Elizabeth Rutger - Owner 150 North Main St Pocatello, ID 83204 208-234-0900 http://www.homespecialists.com/liz@homespecialists.com
Mountain Retreat Real Estate Randy Benglan Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246 208-251-1446 http://www.lavahotspringsrealestate.net/lavarealestate@gmail.com	Bricks & Sticks Real Estate Jennifer Avery - Owner 928 North Main St Pocatello, ID 83246 208-233-4623 or 251-7737 http://www.bricksandsticksrealestate.com/jenn@bricks-sticks.com

APARTMENTS

Burgin Apartments Marshall Burgin - Owner 84 West Elm / PO Box 114 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246 208-776-5570	Idaho Apartments Elva K Parris - Owner 12 South 1st East / PO Box 246 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246 208-776-5402
Duplex - 84/96 East Booth Julie Hill - Owner Grace, ID 83241 208-851-2667	Booth Street Apartments Craig Knutson – Owner 208-776-5470 226 West Booth / PO Box 306 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246
Virginia Apartments Kathy Archibald - Owner 170 West Main / PO Box 338 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246 208-776-5339	R & B LLC Ron Berger - Owner PO Box 305 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246
Webster's Rentals Kim Harris - Manager 518 West Fife St/PO Box 382 Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246	

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Kindergarten through High School

Lava Hot Springs and the southern half of Bannock County are served by Marsh Valley School District #21. The statistics shown below provide comparison figures to evaluate against other school systems. Besides academic excellence, which is the main focus of the District, there is a well-balanced extracurricular program for the students. Vocational training is offered at the high school level. The statistics shown below are for the 2010/2011 school year.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

	LAVA ELEMENTARY	MARSH VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL	MARSH VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
Total Enrollment	77	191	399
Average Class Size	17	17	20
# of Teachers	4.5	16	23
Student/Teacher Ratio	17/1	12/1	17/1

School Classification: 3A

HIGHER EDUCATION

Two institutions of higher education are located within 1½ hours of Lava Hot Springs.

1. **Idaho State University** - Pocatello, ID, 35 miles, ½ hour drive, <http://www.isu.edu/>
2. **Idaho State University Soda Springs Center - School of Applied Technology**, 22 miles, 25 minute drive, <http://www.isu.edu/otherisu/sodasprings.shtml>
3. **Utah State University** - Logan, UT, 75 miles, 1½ hours drive, <http://www.usu.edu/>

LAVA HOT SPRINGS FIRE STATION

In 1991 the City of Lava Hot Springs contracted to provide the Rural Fire District with fire protection. Shortly thereafter they outgrew the station and began exploring avenues for expansion. In November 1995 the City purchased an existing warehouse on the west end of town. In 1996 a Community Block Grant was received to renovate the building. The total cost of the project was \$222,030 which included 67% of local match. The renovation was completed in January 1997 and the grand opening was in March 1997.

LAVA LIBRARY

The first library was organized in 1966 by a demonstration act, by the Congress of Idaho. A grant was set up by the state to provide a bookmobile, driver and library books for a mobile library for Southeast Bannock County. The city gave them a corner of City Hall, the Lions Club built shelving and the bookmobile brought about 100 books every month.

Several years later the Professional Women's Organization sponsored the Lava Library. A small office on Main Street was donated along with funds for utilities. Again the Lions Club built shelving, and the State Library furnished 500 books which were replaced every 6 months. Volunteers staffed the library.

In 1968 the citizens of Southeast Bannock County petitioned to form a library district, a board of directors was organized and a librarian was hired.

In 1972 the library moved to its present location at 33 East Main Street.

The library has been a real asset to our town. Since we are a resort town, the tourists appreciate the use of the library, as well as our many retirees, families, and other citizens.

<http://www.southbannocklibrary.org/> or lavalib@dcdi.net or 208-776-5301

SOUTH BANNOCK COUNTY HISTORICAL CENTER MUSEUM

Located off Hwy 30 on 110 East Main St, the museum contains a collection of Native American and pioneer artifacts, and a permanent exhibit showing the effects of transportation on the area. Our museum acts to preserve local heritage. It is open daily from noon to 5:00 p.m. and after hours by appointment. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

<http://www.lavahotsprings.com/museum.htm> or lavamus@dcdi.net or 208-776-5254

THE "L" MOUNTAIN

One of Lava's unique features is the letter "L" that appears high on the mountain above the town. It was established during the 30's as a school project, when Lava had its own high school. The clearing of the brush and placing of the original rock forming the "L" was done by students. One can appreciate this effort only if they have hiked up the mountain to the "L".

The lights were added in the sixties when a group of High School Alumni collected money. Volunteers put them in place. It has been maintained by the City with the help of various volunteer groups such as the Boy Scouts, Lioness Club and Lions Club.

To appreciate the "L" at its best, it must be viewed at night. When approaching Lava from the west, it appears as magic and alerts the traveler of the approaching town.

TRANSPORTATION

Lava Hot Springs is located in Bannock County in southeast Idaho just 35 miles southeast of Pocatello, 50 miles west of the Wyoming border, and 150 miles north of Salt Lake City. Highway access to Lava Hot Springs is via Highway 30. Highway 30 intersects with Interstate Highway 15 just 11 miles west of Lava. Over 1.1 million vehicles traveled Highway 30 in 1993.

Air Service is provided at nearby Pocatello by Skywest and Horizon Air Lines, both providing several flights daily to Salt Lake City and Boise, respectively.

Pocatello Airport - <http://www.pocatello.us/airport/>

Salt Lake Express - Transportation between southeast Idaho and Salt Lake City, Utah.

<http://www.saltlakeexpress.com/>

Lava Hot Springs Airport is located on a mesa 200 feet above the valley floor surrounded by mountains, 1.5 miles southwest of the City of Lava Hot Springs, adjacent to the golf course. The runway is 3500 feet long by 100 feet wide consisting of turf surface, and is constructed in close compliance with Idaho Aeronautics and FAA guidelines.

Airport information is as follows:

Town: Lava Hot Springs, ID

Airport ID: ID 26, restricted

Coordinates: N-42-36.5, W-112-1.9

Elevation: 5268 feet

Frequency: CTAF-122.9

Sectional: Salt Lake City

Bus Service

Bus service to and from Pocatello is provided by Pocatello Regional Transit on Tuesdays. You can make an appointment to ride the bus. For a fee of \$5, the bus will take you to various locations for shopping as well as to your doctor's appointment.

Pocatello Regional Transit: 232-0111

\$5 - Round trip to Pocatello on Tuesdays

<http://www.pocatellotransit.com/>

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

437 West Spring St

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Sacrament Meeting

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

12:00 p.m. Priesthood Meeting, Relief Society, Primary

Tuesdays

7:00 p.m. Mutual (youth activity) & Boy Scouts

208-776-5692

Lava Community Church

118 West Elm St

Sundays

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

Thursdays

6:00 p.m. Youth Group

208-776-5661/776-5328

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

132 South 1st West

Saturdays

5:00 p.m. Mass

208-547-3200

Saint Germain "I Am"

7514 Hwy. 30

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Service

208-776-5542

CITY OF LAVA AND PARKS

115 West Elm
Lava Hot Springs, ID 83246
208-776-5820

Buddy Campbell Park

5th West & Main St

- Pavilions, playground, tennis, basketball, baseball, badminton, volleyball, horseshoes, and restrooms.

No reservations needed, **on a first come-first served basis.**

Call City Hall 208-776-5820.

LAVA HOT SPRINGS FOUNDATION AND STATE PARKS

<http://www.lavahotsprings.com/>

Natural Hot Pools and the Olympic Swimming & Water Park

430 East Main St

208-776-5221

Lava has seventeen acres of state parks.

Parks have picnic facilities, pavilions, barbecue pits, playground, and restrooms.

Reservations required

ANNUAL EVENTS IN LAVA HOT SPRINGS

February

Fire & Ice Winter Fest!

Events include: Idaho Wine Tasting Riverside Inn, Portneuf River Polar Bear Float, Bartenders Contest, Chili Cook Off, Swimming Pool Rock Climb, Children's Events, Formal Dinner & Casino Night, Running of the Bulls

March

Amateur Boxing

April

Bunnyland USA at Buddy Campbell Park

Events include: Breakfast with Bunny, Basketball Competition, Easter Hat Creation, Space Castle, Space Truck, Karaoke Competition, Baby Chicks petting zoo, Easter Hat Parade, Easter Egg Hunt

May

Olympic Pool Opening Day

June

Idaho Free Fishing Day in public waters

July

4th of July Celebration with fireworks in Lava Hot Springs.

Founders Day Parade at 6 pm down Main Street. (Saturday nearest July 24)

24th Annual Community Day at Buddy Campbell Park

August

Bulls only Rodeo

September

Lava Folk's Festival around the 2nd weekend of the month with food, music, and fun.

Dog-a-Palooza dog swim day

December

Christmas Program at 7:00 at the Community Building

Lava Elementary School Play

To see more up-to-date events, go to the **Lava Chamber of Commerce** site at:

<http://www.lavahotsprings.org/>