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## **BLAINE COUNTY RESIDENTS INVITED TO TEST DRIVE ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

*Free test-drive events to be held in Ketchum and Hailey*

**KETCHUM, IDAHO** – May 5, 2017 – Electric vehicles will be available for the public to test drive Friday, May 12, 2 – 6 p.m., at the Ore Wagon Museum in Ketchum and Saturday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the Community Campus in Hailey.

The test drive event is hosted by the Sun Valley Institute’s RevUp Blaine initiative, a limited-time program providing Blaine County residents and businesses significant discounts on four of the most popular electric vehicles: the Chevrolet Volt, the Nissan Leaf, the Audi A3 e-tron, and the BMW i3.

All four vehicles are available to test drive and dealership representatives will be available to answer questions.

RevUp Blaine is providing the discounts and educational outreach with the ultimate goal of transforming Blaine County’s transportation sector into a clean and resilient system. Electric vehicles benefit the environment by emitting no greenhouse gases when operating in all-electric mode.

Electric vehicles are also known to accelerate better, drive smoother, and cost less to operate than traditional vehicles. Their battery and motor require little to no upkeep, their brake wear is considerably reduced due to regenerative braking, and they generally have fewer fluids to change.

The Community School’s upper environmental class will provide additional electric vehicle education with their ‘97 Chevy S10 converted electric vehicle. Students will use the vehicle to explain the differences between conventional and electric cars, while emphasizing the environmental benefits of driving an electric vehicle. Blaine County students are encouraged to attend.

The event is free and open to the public. Drop by or sign up before hand for a specific time slot to test drive a vehicle. Please email your preferred time(s) and vehicle(s) to

energy@sunvalleyinstitute.org. For more information on RevUp Blaine, visit [www.revupblaine.org](http://www.revupblaine.org).

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### **About the Sun Valley Institute**

The Sun Valley Institute advances policy leadership, public engagement and targeted investments to ensure economic prosperity, environmental protection and human wellbeing in its home community of Idaho's Wood River Valley and beyond. Sun Valley leaders founded the Institute in the spring of 2015 to protect and enhance local quality of place for future generations of residents and visitors alike, and to serve as a resource for communities everywhere. From the original Native American inhabitants to the miners and ranchers of the valley's early days, from the Union Pacific engineers who built the world's first chairlift to those who challenge themselves in its mountains and rivers today, Sun Valley is about history and tradition, grit and perseverance, well-being and quality of life. The risks, assets and values of Sun Valley make it the perfect home for an institute dedicated to resilience. For more information, please visit: [www.sunvalleyinstitute.org](http://www.sunvalleyinstitute.org)



### **About RevUp Blaine**

RevUp Blaine is a limited-time program that helps the people of Blaine County purchase electric vehicles at a discounted price. As part of the Institute's Energy Program, RevUp Blaine seeks to build a resilient energy system in Blaine County and to serve as a model for other communities by addressing and acting upon energy risks and opportunities. For more information, please visit [www.revupblaine.org](http://www.revupblaine.org)