



OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXECUTIVE

WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE ON WASTE PREVENTION AND RECYCLING
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PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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WHITE HOUSE HONORS 2006 CLOSING THE CIRCLE AWARDS WINNERS

On June 13, 2006, Federal employees from across the United States gathered in Washington, DC, to accept Closing the Circle Awards (CTC) for their outstanding performance in the areas of environmental management systems, pollution prevention, recycling, green product purchasing, alternative fuels, sustainable buildings, and electronics stewardship.

The CTC Awards recognize outstanding achievements of Federal employees and their facilities for efforts that resulted in significant contributions to, or have made a significant positive impact regarding to environmental stewardship. The awards focus on waste prevention, recycling, and green purchasing activities under Executive Order (E.O.) 13101, environmental management under E.O. 13148, green/sustainable buildings under several executive orders, and reduced fuel usage under E.O. 13149. This year the program also recognizes four (4) Gold level partners of the Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC).

“Sustainable environmental performance has become an integral part of how we do business in the Federal government,” said Mr. Ed Piñero, the Federal Environmental Executive. “These award winning programs and individuals truly exemplify how our management and operations can be made more sustainable through enhanced environmental stewardship.”

Created by executive order, the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) is a chartered task force under the White House Council on Environmental Quality. It works to promote sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the Federal government by assisting agencies in integrating environmental considerations into their operations. OFEE assists agencies with such sustainable practices as implementing environmental management systems, purchasing green products, constructing sustainable buildings, electronics stewardship, and waste prevention and recycling.

The 2006 winners and their achievements are as follow:

Recycling-Military

Department of Defense

US Army Fort Campbell, KY

Pollution Prevention Branch – Recycling Team

Zero Waste is the Goal

Fort Campbell recycled and reused an array of hazardous materials that resulted in a 96 percent reduction in hazardous waste disposed. Innovative programs such as the military battery testing program generated \$1.5 million in procurement cost avoidance and diverted 55 percent of the batteries earmarked for disposal. Grinding construction and demolition debris concrete diverted 7,600 tons from the landfill while providing more than \$203,000 in cost savings.

Recycling-Civilian

Department of Energy

Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge, TN

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Team

Multi-Organizational Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle at Y-12

Y-12 established the multi-organizational Reduce/Reuse/Recycle Team, including business, operations, support, and legal functions. In Fiscal Year 2005, just within the recycling function, Y-12 implemented 70 projects reusing/recycling 20,000 metric tons of materials with an estimated cost avoidance of \$1.67 million.

Department of the Interior

Minerals Management Service, Anchorage, AK

Caryn Smith

A Work Environment that Works for the Environment

Ms. Smith began the Minerals Management Service's Alaska Region Recycling Program in 1989 and has been an advocate for it ever since. She continually finds ways to expand recycling options, prevent waste, and increase awareness about recycling and pollution prevention within the office. She was instrumental in ensuring that office spaces included a recycling bin at each printer/copier station as well as a recycling room for staging recyclables for collection and transfer.

Environmental Protection Agency

EPA HQ, Washington, DC

Recycling Electronics and Asset Disposition (READ) Services Team

A Government-Wide Procurement Tool to Properly Manage, Recycle and Dispose of Electronics

EPA created the READ Services Contract as a procurement tool to assist Federal agencies in properly managing, recycling and disposing of excess or obsolete electronics. For example after Hurricane Katrina struck, the READ program played a prominent role in collecting and recycling more than 10 million pounds of damaged or obsolete equipment in the New Orleans area on behalf of FEMA. To date more than a dozen agencies are using the READs Contract.

Waste Pollution/Prevention-Military

Department of Defense

Crane Army Ammunition Activity, NSA Crane, IN

Pollution Prevention Team

Reuse of MJU Decoy Flares

Crane was responsible for the reuse of 200,000 MJU decoy flares with an associated cost savings of \$7 million. The MJU decoy flare provides aircraft survivability and protection against Infra Red guided threats. The Crane Team examined contractors failed lots of MJU-32/B and 38/B decoy flares and provided an innovative plan for their successful renovation that eliminated the need for disposal.

Waste Pollution/Prevention-Civilian

Department of Energy

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, WA

PNNL Stewardship Team

Conservation through Reuse

PNNL worked in partnership with the local community and other stakeholders to avoid more than \$2 million in purchasing and waste disposal costs during fiscal year 2005. These savings were accomplished through a variety of programs, such as the reduction, reuse and recycling of equipment, chemicals, office products and construction materials. For example, a total of 334 computer systems and other electronic equipment were donated to local schools at a value of almost \$1.5 million if purchased new on the market.

Department of the Interior

National Parks Service WASO, Lakewood, CO

Concession Environmental Management Team

Green Contracts Prevent Pollution

The Concession Environmental Management Program (CoEMP) has been an advocate for increased environmental awareness among the 590 concessionaires in the National Parks system. For example, they developed the *GreenLine* Newsletter and CD, and also a website as forums where CoEMP could share information with concessionaires about environmental regulations, Best Management Practices, and other accomplishments.

Sustainable Design/ Green Buildings-Military

Department of Defense

Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, CA

Public Works Department

Building 850: Energy and Sustainability Showcase

This building was awarded the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design LEED™ Gold rating in 2005. Some of the outstanding sustainable

features include: 100 percent of the occupied spaces are day lit; space heating is provided by solar power and by pulse boilers with a minimum 90 percent efficiency; and waterless urinals, low-flow toilets, automatic faucets, and low-flow showerheads reduce interior water consumption by more than 40 percent.

Sustainable Design/ Green Buildings-Civilian

Department of the Interior

National Parks Service MWRO, Omaha, NE

LEED Gold Team

Making "The Good Life" Sustainable

This is the first facility in Omaha to earn USGBC's LEED™ Gold certification. Some of the key sustainable features include: use of native plantings that require little, if any, water, fertilizer, pesticides or herbicides; water-efficient plumbing fixtures in the restrooms, including dual-flush toilets that use only as much water to flush as is needed, help contribute to 45 percent less water use in the building; and despite extensive use of glass, the building is 30 percent more efficient than their former facility.

Alternative Fuel and Fuel Conservation in Transportation -Military

Department of Defense

Naval Station Great Lakes, IL

Base Support Transportation Team

Alternative Fuel and Fuel Conservation in Transportation

The Naval Station Great Lakes Transportation Team implemented aggressive alternative fuels and fuel conservation programs that have converted 42 percent of the vehicle fleet to alternate fuel vehicle (AFV) status and have reduced fuel use by 31,000 gallons this past year. Thirty (30) AFV vehicles were acquired in 2005 resulting in a total of 229 cars and light trucks operating with E-85 Ethanol or Compressed Natural Gas fuels serviced at three fueling stations.

Alternative Fuel and Fuel Conservation in Transportation -Civilian

Department of Energy

DOE HQ, Washington, DC

Green Fleet Team

Petroleum Fuel Reduction through Alternative Fuels

The 2006 DOE Green Fleet Team is comprised of Idaho National Laboratory, Pantex Plant, Sandia National Laboratory, and Savannah River Site. Overall, the team represents 62 percent of the total alternative fuel consumed by the entire DOE fleet. This equates to about 370,000 gasoline gallon equivalents (GGE) of alternative fuel consumption.

United States Postal Service

USPS HQ, Washington DC

Han T. Dinh

Expansion of Biodiesel Utilization at USPS

Mr. Dinh helped reduce USPS consumption of petroleum-based diesel through the use of a biodiesel blend “B20.” This project critically evaluated biodiesel fuel in terms of mechanical wear and compatibility with engine components as compared with the effects of conventional on-road diesel fuel. During the Fiscal Year 2000 through 2005, the amount of B20 consumed by USPS nearly tripled from approximately 400,000 gasoline gallon equivalents, to more than 1.1 million gallons.

EMS-Military

Department of Defense

Robins AFB, Warner Robins, GA

Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Team

Environmental Management for the Future

Robins AFB has adopted an innovative and evolving EMS that focuses on further developing and maintaining an environmentally sustainable “green” base of the future. EMS success stories include: green planning initiatives in the new corrosion control hangars reduce operating costs by \$800,000/year and maintenance cost by \$150,000/year; a new depainting processes reduce air emissions by more than 90 percent and new application technologies reduce paint consumption by 40 percent.

EMS-Civilian

Department of the Treasury

United States Mint, Denver, CO, Philadelphia, PA & West Point, NY

Environmental Management Systems Team

EMS Program at United States Mint

US Mint has made several positive contributions through implementation of its EMS: Philadelphia Mint reduced allowable metals concentration in effluent by about 20 percent, subsequently reducing solid waste generation by 85 percent; the Denver Mint uses a hazardous materials pharmacy to centrally manage chemicals; West Point Mint recycles about 95 percent of e-waste, batteries, and fluorescent bulbs, cardboard, scrap metal, beverage and food containers.

Green Purchasing-Civilian

Department of Homeland Security

US Coast Guard Aircraft Repair and Supply Center, Elizabeth City, NC

Engineering Support Team

Corn Starch Dry Blast Media

The Aircraft Repair and Supply Center adopted EnviroStrip GPX ®corn starch blast media as its primary dry blast media for de-painting operations. Most plastic bead blasting was eliminated and use of chemical stripper was minimized through use of the corn starch blast,. In 2005, 97, 200 lbs of EnviroStrip (98 percent) was returned for reutilization. The end result, 17,000 pounds of plastic blast media waste and hazardous waste were successfully eliminated.

Department of Energy

Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

Sandia P2 Staff and Procurement Green Teams

Comprehensive Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program

Sandia has a comprehensive Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) program that continues to grow and evolve to incorporate new aspects as they are identified. For example, the Construction Green Team requires reporting of CPG products for new construction, amplifying purchases by \$2.5 million per year. These and similar efforts result in more accurate reporting, raising CPG purchases to almost \$8 million and 93 percent compliance. Working from their existing, award-winning recycled content products purchasing program, Sandia's team expanded policies, procedures, and techniques to biobased products procurement. An example included testing a bio-based paint stripper that will replace a hazardous paint solvent.

Federal Electronics Stewardship

Department of Veterans Affairs

VA Central Office, Washington DC
Federal Electronics Challenge Team
Gold Award Winner

VA addressed all three life cycle phases of electronics stewardship: purchase, use and end-of-life. The VA Team expanded on existing "green" standards for the acquisition of computer hardware based on the new EPEAT (Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool) standard. Almost 100 percent of VA computer monitors have the ENERGY STAR® Stand-By-Power function enabled. VA also recycled more than one million pounds of outmoded electronics, keeping nearly 7 tons of solid and hazardous waste out of landfills.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA HQ, Washington, DC
Federal Electronics Challenge Team
Gold Award Winner

The following EPA Headquarters Offices are recognized for their Federal Electronics stewardship efforts: The Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM), reduced electronic equipment energy consumption by 35 percent from their 2004 baseline. The Office of Environmental Information (OEI), managed electronics end-of-life through internal reuse, a manufacturer take-back program, and environmentally sound recycling. The Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS), reduced electronic equipment replacement rates from 60 percent per employee per year in 2004 to 30 percent in 2005. The Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), provided mentoring to the Departments of State and Commerce.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Region 2, New York, NY
Federal Electronics Challenge Team
Gold Award Winner

EPA Region 2 has achieved significant environmental results in managing electronics through its participation in the FEC. This past year, 100 percent of the electronics procured by the Region were ENERGY STAR® compliant. Of the over 300 pieces of equipment purchased, approximately 90 percent has been enabled to achieve cost and energy savings. The useful life of its IT

equipment has been extended to approximately six years. This has resulted in savings of more than \$50,000 per year.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Region 4, Atlanta, GA

Federal Electronics Challenge Team

Gold Award Winner

EPA Region 4 institutionalized a new policy that transformed its business processes to further promote “green” procurement, maintenance, recycling and the donation of 100 percent of its electronic equipment. Energy Star Power Management is enabled on 100 percent of network monitors, resulting in an estimated energy savings of \$18,000 per year. Region 4 also recycled approximately 400 computer devices and donated approximately 1,200 computer devices, many of which were provided to schools impacted by the devastations of Hurricane Katrina.