Taking Action to Green Our Rides: National Park Service goals and evolving practices

Green Parks Plan (GPP) – Mitigation

- Released on Earth Day 2012, sets NPS sustainability vision and targets
- Annual review and evaluation on progress and performance trends
- The GPP calls for achieving this vision through nine goals areas:
  - Continuously Improve Environmental Performance
  - Be Climate Friendly and Climate Ready
  - Be Energy Smart
  - Be Water Wise
  - Buy Green and Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle
  - Preserve Outdoor Values
  - Adopt Best Practices
  - Foster Sustainability Beyond Our Boundaries
  - Green Our Rides
Green Our Rides NPS Action

NPS employees are taking action to help Green Our Rides:

- Idle reduction
- Driver behaviors that maximize fuel economy
- Alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies
- Alternative transportation options (walking, biking, transit)

“As we make choices in our everyday lives, from getting to work to doing our jobs, we should constantly seek to adopt more sustainable transportation methods.”

– Green Parks Plan
Clean Cities - Partnering to Green Our Rides

• 2010 DOE-NPS Interagency Agreement
• Objective: Fund and support visible projects that reduce petroleum consumption, vehicle greenhouse gases, and other emissions
• 22 projects funded to date
• Plus . . .
  - Technical Assistance
    - AFVs, Idle Reduction
  - Community Outreach/Advocacy
    - Broad community opportunities
  - Partnership Development
    - Alternative fuel industry partners
  - Funding Assistance
    - Proposal development

www.cleancities.energy.gov/national_parks.html
Green Rides Toolkit

- Green Rides Success Stories
- Tip Cards/ Driver Pledges
- Staff Talking Points, Fact Sheets and Newspaper Inserts covering:
  - Alternative Fuels
  - Driving Best Practices
  - Idle Reduction
  - Other Strategies
- Leadership Letters
- No Idling Policies
- Idle Reduction Decals
- Additional Resources and Beneficial Links
Green Our Rides Visitor Participation

- Visitor participation multiplies positive efforts
- Adding the Alternative Fueling Station Locator to nps.gov directions for visitors
- Clean Cities projects and collaboration within the community
- Providing opportunities for biking, shuttling and walking and encouraging visitor participation in Green Rides efforts

Park and Visitor GHG Emissions from Most Visited CFP Parks

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Alternative Fueling Station Locator
Electric Drive – NPS Challenges and Opportunities

- Periodic fleet replacement (limited funding)
- Encouraging EVSE - Official NPS guidance for EVSE installation and use at NPS units, addressing:
  - NPS fleet charging
  - Employee charging
  - Visitor charging
- Only 10 parks with EVSE, 15 EVSE/PEV projects funded under Clean Cities National Parks initiative
- Demonstrating EV use and increasing public outreach to encourage sustainable travel
Electric Drive – “Driving Towards Sustainability”
Questions?

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Electric Drive – Case Study

Mississippi National River & Recreation Area

• Installing 12 publicly-available EVSE in 11 locations
  - Partnering with state and local agencies, businesses, and learning centers
• Locations are strategically located throughout 72-mile coordinator from Minneapolis to St. Paul
• Allows the public to visit park destinations with PEVs and provides additional public infrastructure for commuters
• Once in the park, visitors are encouraged to take advantage of other transportation options, including the local bike share program
• Additional project objective to provide EVSE sites with 100% wind-sourced electricity
Electric Drive – Case Study

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

• Clean Cities National Parks Initiative project
  – Installing five EVSE
  – Deploying five PEVs
    » Chevy Volt
    » Mitsubishi iMiEV
    » Ford Fusion Energi
    » Ford Focus BEV
    » Ford CMAX Energi

• Partnering with Adopt-a-Charger and PG&E to provide sponsored charging at Muir Woods via two EVSE

• Participating in GSA’s EV deployment project
Climate Change affects on National Parks

**Glacier National Park**
Risk of losing all glaciers within the next decade due to rising temperatures.

**Everglades National Park**
Risk of losing unique ecosystems and endangered species due to rising sea levels.

**Joshua Tree National Park**
Risk of losing their namesake due to invasive grasses and increased wildfires.