



NPS CoEMP Wins National Award

The NPS Concession Environmental Management Program (CoEMP) received one of 11 prestigious U.S. Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Awards for 2004.

Headquartered at the NPS Offices in Lakewood, Colorado, the CoEMP was established five years ago to help develop environmental programs and accountability for the 630 businesses offering visitor services in 128 national parks. Generating an estimated \$819 million in gross receipts annually, these park concessioners provide such visitor services as food and beverage, lodging, and retail as well as horseback riding, fishing, rafting, boating, and other recreational opportunities to the more than 280 million park visitors each year.

The mission of the CoEMP is to provide assistance and guidance that advances the environmental performance of businesses offering visitor services in national parks. The CoEMP staff of three, with assistance from a team of environmental consultants, emphasizes the key strategies of evaluation, education, and communication to help concessioners and NPS park staff understand and better manage the actual or potential environmental impacts stemming from day-to-day operations.

This national award recognizes the CoEMP's achievements in increasing awareness and accountability in environmental regulatory compliance, best management practices, and environmental management systems for concessioners and park concession staff

Specifically, the CoEMP earned the award for its efforts in:

- Publishing the biannual *GreenLine* Newsletter which highlights concessioner environmental programs, educates readers on environmental regulations, and provides technical guidance and information;
- Incorporating training that emphasizes environmental management and resource protection into existing concession training;

- Creating and maintaining a website and an accompanying CD specific to concessioners that includes more than 320 resources and environmental guidance documents on topics ranging from hazardous waste to respiratory protection to buying environmentally preferable products;
- Conducting environmental audits of concessioner operations that provide one-on-one compliance assistance and education;
- Developing technical resources that provide environmental information and best management practices specific to concession operations in national parks; and
- Helping concessioners develop environmental management systems to better manage environmental impacts and improve environmental performance.



The DOI Environmental Achievement Award recognizes those individuals and teams that have demonstrated environmental excellence.

For a listing of concessioners receiving DOI and NPS Environmental Achievement Awards, turn to page 4.

The DOI Environmental Achievement Award recognizes DOI employees and teams as well as DOI cooperators (i.e., contractors or concessioners) who have attained exceptional environmental achievements that conserve our nation's natural resources. The awards for 2005 focus on the areas of environmental stewardship, waste/pollution prevention, recycling, environmentally preferable purchasing, sustainable design/green buildings, minimizing petroleum usage in transportation, and environmental management systems.

Ask Dr. Ima Park

For this *GreenLine* Newsletter issue, we ask our in-house expert, Dr. Ima Park, to answer a question about human waste – which is not defined as a hazardous waste by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations, but can be hazardous to our health because of the diseases it may cause!

? *I'm a backcountry guide and offer day-long and multi-day activities in several national parks. I'm not sure what kind of sanitation facilities I need to provide my guests. What do you recommend?*

Dr. Ima Park:

You can find the basic NPS policies for waste sanitation in Director's Order 83 and Reference Manuals 83 B and H (go to www.nps.gov/public_health). These NPS policies outline accepted backcountry public health practices pertaining to waste sanitation. For further clarification on these policies, contact your NPS U.S. Public Health Representative.

Basically, human feces and other solid waste need to be transported to an approved offsite disposal facility unless other compliant facilities are available within the park for use by concessioners.

When you need to carry out human waste, you can use a pickle pail (e.g., a five-gallon bucket with a tight fitting lid), rocket box



(e.g., 20 mm ammunition cans), 55-gallon drums, a Clean Mountain Can (i.e., a plastic container with a ventila-

tion system and a disposable foam ring), or other closed container systems. When full, these containers should be taken and dumped into a septic tank system or wastewater treatment plant, depending on your location.



The types of fixed facilities that may be available for your use include flush toilets, composting toilets, barrel toilets, evaporator toilets, incinerator toilets, and pit privies. However, it is not recommended that you use pit privies because the potential for water contamination exists.

If you have no other toilet options, your guests may dig and use a cat hole. The cat hole should be at least six inches deep and at least 100 feet away from water. Since toilet paper decomposes slowly and animals may dig it up, it is best to collect the toilet paper in a separate container and haul it out for disposal in a public wastewater system or vault toilet.

When in the backcountry, your guests may urinate onsite or in the main river current unless prohibited by law or park policy. Again, it is best to collect used toilet paper in a separate container and haul it out.

Remember that to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases, you need to dispose of all human waste in a manner consistent with all Applicable Laws, including Federal, state, local, and park health and environmental policies and regulations, and your concession contract. This will help protect park resources for the benefit of future park visitors and wildlife!

Greening Up Your Office

Office Depot has expanded its 2005 Green Book catalog. This catalog contains 2,500 office products that concessioners can order to help save raw materials, conserve energy, and reduce or prevent the emission of toxic substances. The Green Book offers energy efficient computer monitors, light bulbs, and printers as well as biodegradable packing materials and cleaners. To receive a copy of the Green Book, call 1-800-GO-DEPOT and request item # 321464. You can also obtain a copy of the Green Book by going to www.officedepot.com and clicking on "order by item number." Search for item #321464. The catalog is free.



Mount Rainier National Park, Washington



GreenLine is an official publication of the National Park Service (NPS) Concession Program. The newsletter provides a forum in which the NPS can share information with NPS staff and concessioners about the Concession Environmental Management Program, current environmental requirements, and best management practices; it also identifies resources available to improve concessioner environmental performance and highlights success stories.

Guest articles have been reviewed by the NPS Concession Environmental Management Program and, if required, edited in collaboration with the original author.

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Notice: This newsletter is intended as an educational tool for businesses providing visitor services in national parks. Every effort has been made to ensure the information presented is accurate. However, the content does not constitute a complete reference to state, Federal, or local laws nor does it constitute National Park Service rulemaking, policy, or guidance. Relying solely on the information in the newsletter will not guarantee compliance with applicable regulations. Strategies, procedures, and proposed solutions for compliance issues should be discussed with the appropriate state, Federal, and/or local regulatory agencies; it remains the sole responsibility of operators to determine compliance with regulations. Inclusion in the newsletter is not an endorsement of a particular operator, product, or strategy.

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The Drive to Reduce Hazardous Waste

You need to regularly service all of your vehicles to keep them in tip-top condition, whether you drive a company vehicle to work, use a tractor for maintenance activities, provide transportation services for a park, or use some other vehicle for your concession operations. However, vehicle maintenance can generate waste – some of which is harmful to the environment if not disposed of properly.

One way to address miscellaneous vehicle maintenance wastes is to hire a licensed contractor who specializes in disposing and recycling them – but there may be other, less costly ways of managing this waste.

When exploring these other options, make sure you comply with all Applicable Laws and always mention to disposal and recycling companies that you are a business – not a homeowner – looking at ways to properly manage your miscellaneous vehicle maintenance wastes. You should obtain and maintain on file copies of any agreements reached with state agencies, local garages, solid waste/recycling facilities, and other partners, even if the agreements are somewhat informal. This includes asking staff who service your vehicles at an offsite garage or asking waste disposal contractors what happens to miscellaneous vehicle maintenance wastes and documenting their response in writing. Keeping this documentation ensures that you will be prepared for any questions concerning your waste stream.

Oil and Antifreeze. Good vehicle maintenance and manufacturer recommendations specify that you should change your oil regularly to keep the engine well-lubricated and functioning. Also, you need to change your antifreeze routinely to help prevent your engine from overheating, freezing, and rusting.



Whether you or your local garage changes your vehicle fluids, remember that you should never pour used oil or antifreeze on the ground, in the storm drain, or down a sink drain (even if your drain leads to the local wastewater treatment plant), since doing so can contaminate groundwater and pollute lakes and streams. Your used antifreeze may be considered a hazardous waste if it contains high enough concentrations of certain heavy metals. If so, it must be managed as a hazardous waste. As a result, you should work with your state agencies to determine if your used antifreeze is hazardous and then keep that documentation on file.

To manage your used oil and antifreeze responsibly, call your local garage or solid waste disposal/recycling facility and ask if they will take and recycle your used oil and antifreeze. Do not mix your used oil and antifreeze with each other or any other substances, including household chemicals – otherwise, it may become more costly and difficult to recycle them.

Batteries. If you need to replace the battery in your vehicle, don't throw it away! The battery acid and lead could contaminate drinking waters and the plastic will not decompose in our lifetimes.



When buying your replacement lead acid battery, ask if the vendor will take your old battery for recycling in exchange for purchasing a new battery – many vendors already do this. Otherwise, you can call your local garage or solid waste disposal/recycling facility and ask if they recycle lead acid batteries, or you can use a commercial service, such as The Big Green Box™ (go to www.biggreenbox.com), to recycle the battery.



Headlamps. While it is rare, you may need to replace vehicle headlamps if they get broken or burn out. If you remove fluorescent or high intensity discharge (HID) lamps, do not throw them out with the regular trash. Be careful not to break them since they contain mercury, lead, and sometimes cadmium, all of which are poisonous to humans, especially young children, even in small amounts. Check with your solid waste disposal/recycling facility to see if they will recycle your intact mercury-containing lamps. Otherwise, you can also use a commercial service, such as LampTracker™ (go to www.lamptracker.com) to recycle them.

Oil Filters. Most oil filters for cars and light trucks are non-terne plated. However, oil filters for heavy-duty vehicles and equipment are usually terne-plated and contain an alloy of tin and lead; these oil filters must be managed as hazardous waste if they are not recycled.

The best way to manage used oil filters is to give them to your local garage or solid waste disposal/recycling facility for recycling – especially for terne-plated oil filters, as Federal regulations prohibit throwing them out in the regular trash.

Fuel Filters. As with used oil filters, the best way to manage used fuel filters is to give them to your local garage or solid waste disposal/recycling facility for recycling. While they do not contain any hazardous components and could go in the regular trash, the metal in used fuel filters can be easily recycled for other purposes.

Tires. Stockpiling tires can be unsightly, can trap rainwater that becomes breeding grounds for disease-carrying mosquitoes and rodents, and can be a fire hazard. One way to prevent stockpiling of tires is to exchange your old tires with the vendor from whom you purchase new tires. After all, you have most likely already paid a tire disposal fee upfront.



The DOI and NPS Recognize the Top

Environmental awards recognize what you do to help the environment. Concessioner efforts to improve environmental performance have produced innovative programs and activities resulting in increased protection of park resources.

The Department of the Interior (DOI) Environmental Achievement Awards and the National Park Service (NPS) Environmental Achievement Awards recognize concessioners for their environmental accomplishments. The 2004 concessioner award recipients highlighted below may provide you with ideas on how to strengthen your own company's environmental performance so you too can become a DOI and/or NPS Environmental Achievement Award winner in the future!

Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Award & National Park Service Environmental Achievement Award *Blue & Gold Fleet*

Blue & Gold Fleet (B&G), a concessioner in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, provides ferry services between San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf and Alcatraz Island. In 2003, B&G demonstrated an exceptional commitment to environmental stewardship through numerous partnerships with local and non-governmental agencies. (For more information on these partnerships, refer to Volume 4, Issue 2 of the *GreenLine Newsletter*.)



Blue & Gold Fleet furthered its environmental commitment by partnering with local and non-governmental organizations.

In addition, B&G demonstrated a solid commitment to environmental management through a variety of initiatives. Their accomplishments include:

- Recycling more than 100,000 pounds of cardboard, 32,000 pounds of paper, and 5,000 gallons of used oil;
- Using environmentally preferred soy-based inks on its tickets, brochures, and business cards;
- Serving certified shade-grown organic coffee on its vessels;
- Utilizing three electric vehicles in its operations;
- Testing biodiesel in its ferry operations to assess its emissions and efficacy; and
- Replacing the last of its two-stroke main diesel engines with more efficient four-stroke engines.

Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Award *Zion Lodge, operated by Xanterra Parks & Resorts*



Zion Lodge's Ecologix environmental management system helped them reduce solid waste generation by 48 percent.

Zion Lodge in Zion National Park developed its Ecologix environmental management system (EMS) to address environmental impacts and identify environmental priorities for its operations that include a lodge, cabins, and motel; restaurant and café; gift shop; and tram tour services.

With the help of their EMS, in 2003 Zion Lodge staff:

- Reduced water consumption by 17 percent by implementing a linen reuse program, converting non-native seeded grass to native shrubs and grasses, and installing low-flow fixtures as part of guest

room renovations, among other activities;

- Reduced solid waste generation by 48 percent by serving beer on tap instead of in bottles and initiating a number of programs including one that rewards vendors for reducing product packaging;
- Reduced energy usage and explored alternative energies by purchasing wind-generated power and replacing incandescent bulbs with energy-conserving compact fluorescent lamps;
- Prepared to install photovoltaic arrays to supply power to administrative offices and a dormitory; and
- Implemented a compost program for wastes generated at Zion Lodge.

Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Award *Grand Teton Lodge Company*

Grand Teton Lodge Company (GTLC) operates the Jenny Lake Lodge, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Colter Bay Village in Grand Teton National Park. GTLC developed an environmental management system (EMS), which involves employees, park visitors, and the local community.

GTLC maintained many partnerships and educational programs in 2003 to promote environmental awareness, such as:

- Supporting Jackson Community Recycling by sponsoring recycling initiatives for electronics, fluorescent lamps, and other materials;
- Advancing renewable energy use and conservation by using wind-generated power;
- Using biodiesel in trucks and buses;



Employees, park visitors, and the local community were all involved in helping the Grand Teton Lodge Company meet its environmental goals.

Top Environmental Performers of 2004

- Working with the Teton County Weed and Pest Department to abate noxious weeds; and
- Partnering with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics to deliver nature-based training to local schools and employees.

Department of the Interior Environment Achievement Award *Xanterra Parks & Resorts at Yellowstone National Park*



Xanterra's Yellowstone National Park operations recycled 257 tons of materials in 2003.

On a typical summer day in Yellowstone National Park, Xanterra Parks & Resorts (Xanterra) serves more than 9,000 park visitors and operates over 200 vehicles at its marina, lodging, food and beverage, gift shop, and tour operations. Through its environmental programs, Xanterra has reduced its environmental "footprint" and has numbers to prove it since it has been tracking data for 12 resource streams for the past four years. The data have verified that Xanterra diverted 257 tons of recyclable waste from landfills in 2003 alone.

Xanterra also has implemented several environmental strategies, including:

- Educating and training employees on environmental management;
- Using organic foods in restaurants; and
- Reducing energy consumption by retrofitting electrical lights, maintaining equipment, and driving hybrid vehicles.

National Park Service Environmental Achievement Award *Grand Canyon National Park and Xanterra Parks & Resorts*

In 2003, Grand Canyon National Park and Xanterra Parks & Resorts partnered to develop and implement a recycling program where 1,454 tons of materials were recycled, resulting in a waste diversion rate of 40.2 percent.

The program included:

- Awarding a recycling contract to a local company, which accepted an expanded list of recyclable items;
- Developing a marketing initiative to promote the new recycling program. This involved sending flyers to residents, placing articles in local newspapers, posting information in guestrooms and other locations, and developing a recycling guide to hand out to visitors at all Park entrance stations;



Xanterra worked with Grand Canyon National Park to promote a newly expanded recycling program.

- Creating programs to recycle or reuse miscellaneous items not picked up by the recycling company, including bus tires, car batteries, used oil, and other items; and
- Establishing an agreement with the Park to manage mule manure to help amend the soil and cover one of the few remaining licensed landfills operating within Park boundaries.

National Park Service Environmental Achievement Award - *Honorable Mention* - *Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts at Yellowstone National Park*

Operating the Yellowstone General Stores at Yellowstone National Park, Delaware North Companies Parks & Resorts demonstrated a commitment to waste reduction through numerous internal initiatives in 2003.

The initiatives included:

- Donating used electronic equipment to local businesses and families in West Yellowstone;
- Donating a dump truck to the West Yellowstone Compost Facility;
- Implementing a vendor compliance agreement with a section describing GreenPath, the company's environmental management system and vendor environmental expectations; and
- Leasing three hybrid vehicles for use in the Park.

(Note: Zion Lodge, operated by Xanterra Parks & Resorts, also received an honorable mention for the NPS Environmental Achievement Award.

For more information on their award, go to page 4.)

Verkamp's

Verkamp's is a small family-run concession that has served the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park for nearly a century. Verkamp's has formalized its long-standing commitment to environmental stewardship by developing and implementing an environmental management system (EMS).

The company's environmental accomplishments include:

- Becoming a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Performance Track program for EMSs;
- Installing motion sensors on lights;
- Returning shipping materials to vendors;
- Canceling catalog mailings from 25 vendors; and
- Purchasing environmentally preferable products (e.g., recycled content copy paper).

Keeping Your Cool



Even if it's snowing in Yellowstone National Park, it may be as hot as Hades in Everglades National Park. No matter where you are, you, your employees, and your guests should keep cool when it's hot.

However, there are environmental impacts to consider while trying to keep cool. When you operate air conditioners, chillers, and freezers, you are using equipment containing refrigerants that can be ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) that may harm human, animal, and plant health and may also contribute to climate change.

When equipment leaks refrigerant, it can contribute to the destruction of the ozone layer. To help protect the environment while keeping your cool, you should:

- **Make a list of all of your equipment that uses refrigerant.** Remember to include all air conditioners – even individual room units and those in vehicles, as well as chillers – on your list. The list should include the type of equipment, its location, and the amount and type of refrigerant that it contains. If you have any piece of equipment that contains 50 pounds or more of ODSs, you are subject to more stringent regulations and must follow requirements that supplement the recommendations listed in this article.
- **Make sure your staff is certified to work with refrigerants.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations require any employee whose work involves refrigerants (including adding refrigerants to equipment) to take a training class and pass a test on the environmental impacts of ODSs. Certification is even required if you use environmentally preferable refrigerants, like R-420A or ISCEON 79. Employees can only work with refrigerants in accordance with their specific certification – someone certified to work with small appliances is not automatically certified to work on vehicle air conditioners. Certifications may be obtained from the EPA or your state environmental regulatory agency.
- **Maintain records for at least three years listing the type of work done on each piece of refrigerant-containing equipment.** By keeping records, such as the invoice with a description of whether refrigerant was added and how much, you can determine whether certain equipment is leaking and decide if it should be repaired or its use discontinued.



- **Use a certified professional to remove refrigerant from your equipment before disposing of it.** Otherwise, all of the refrigerant may be released into the atmosphere when the equipment is dismantled or crushed.

Why get burned over ODSs?

ODSs destroy the ozone layer, which helps shield us from ultraviolet radiation (specifically UVB). UVB is particularly harmful to humans and can cause sunburns and skin cancer. In addition, increased UVB may influence climate change.

Some types of ODSs include chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) (production was banned in 1995), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) (production will be banned after 2030), halons, methyl bromide, carbon tetrachloride, and methyl chloroform. Some of the more common types of CFCs that are ODSs that your air conditioning and refrigeration equipment may contain include CFC-11, CFC-12, CFC-113, CFC-114, and CFC-115.

- **Recycle your refrigerants.** Make sure that you (or your contractor) collects and recycles your refrigerants with a reputable, EPA-certified company.
- **Recycle your refrigerant oils.** Used oil from refrigeration equipment may have picked up ODSs while circulating in the refrigeration system, so it cannot be recycled in the same way as used car oil and should never be combined with used oil from other sources. Used oil from refrigeration equipment should be recycled with a company that can remove ODSs from used oil. Whoever recycles your refrigerant may also be able to recycle your used oil from refrigeration equipment. Be aware that if you choose to dispose of refrigerants (or refrigerant-contaminated used oil) rather than recycle them, hazardous waste regulations may apply.
- **Prepare a plan to phase out refrigerant-containing equipment holding ODSs.** There are many options available for replacing ODS refrigerants and systems, including replacing ODS refrigerants with hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), ammonia, iso-butane, propane, and others. Some of these options can be used with existing equipment with minor modifications, while others can only be used with new equipment designed for specific refrigerants. When choosing a new refrigerant, make sure that you research alternatives and choose to use newer, cleaner technologies to help protect human health and the environment.



RESOURCES:

- *How the Hotel and Tourism Industry Can Protect the Ozone Layer:* www.uneptie.org/pc/tourism/library/ozone.htm
- EPA ozone depletion rules and regulations: www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/index.html
- ODS global warming potential tables: www.epa.gov/ozone/ods.html

Wastes We All Have...But Don't Know What to do With!

Old computers, cell phones, aerosol cans, and cleaning products create waste that may be hazardous. Read on to discover how you can responsibly manage them.

Computers. Computers become obsolete quickly, leading to a lot of potential hazardous waste: monitors with cathode ray tubes (CRTs) contain lead; flat panel monitors contain mercury; and computer circuit boards and batteries contain lead, chromium, cadmium, mercury, etc. So some computer companies have instituted programs to recycle **any** manufacturer's computer hardware and peripherals (e.g., monitors, printers):

- **IBM PC Recycling Service.** Recycles a PC system for \$29.99. Call 1-888-SHOP-IBM and reference part #06P7513 or go to www.ibm.com/ibm/environment/products/ptb_us.shtml.
- **Hewlett Packard (HP).** Recycles a PC system for \$13 to \$34 per item. Go to www.hp.com/hpinfo/globalcitizenship/environment.
- **Apple.** Recycles PC systems for \$30 per box. Call 1-888-638-2761 or go to www.apple.com/environment.
- **Dell.** Recycles 50 lb of computer equipment for \$15, or for free if you purchase a new computer from them. Go to www.dell.com and search for "recycling."

Televisions. TVs contain lead if they use CRTs, or mercury if they are flat screens. Consider donating working televisions to a local charity. For nonfunctioning televisions, check with a local repair or recycling company to see if they accept TVs from businesses for recycling. Your local solid waste/recycling facility may also have ideas on how your old TVs can be recycled.

Cellular phones. Some cellular phones contain lead, cadmium, and mercury but can still be reused by charitable organizations. If not, their batteries, metals, and plastics can be recycled.

- The Charitable Recycling Program lists organizations that benefit from your cellular phone donation. Send your used cellular phones to the Charitable Recycling Program, 794-A Industrial Court, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302; call 1-800-527-4700 x301; or go to www.charitablerecycling.com.
- The Wireless Foundation manages a DONATE A PHONE program, which sells used cellular phones and donates the proceeds to different charities. Collection points are listed on the website. Send used cellular phones to CALL TO PROTECT, 2555 Bishop Circle West, Dexter, MI 48130; or go to www.wirelessfoundation.org.
- The AT&T Wireless Reuse & Recycle national recycling program accepts wireless phones, accessories, and batteries – regardless of the manufacturer or carrier – at any AT&T Wireless retail store. You may be able to request a pickup. Go to www.attwireless.com/our_company/cares/recycle_program.jhtml.
- Nextel recycles used cellular phones from customers with a Nextel account. Customers may receive a credit by returning

their used phones. Go to www.nextelbuyback.com.

- Nokia recycles Nokia phones and accessories. Go to www.nokia.com, click on "About Nokia," and then "Environment."
- Verizon Wireless offers a HopeLine phone recycling program that collects used wireless handsets and equipment from any wireless carrier. Wireless equipment is used to assist victims in emergency domestic violence situations. Go to www.verizonwireless.com/b2c/aboutUs/community_service/hopeLine.jsp.

Aerosol cans. Aerosol cans contain propellants under pressure that may be highly flammable and the product itself may be considered a hazardous material. Before recycling or throwing the can away, empty it. But do not spray the propellant into the air simply to empty it for disposal as this contributes to air pollution. Use all of it for its intended use, and then recycle the can. In some states, aerosol cans are managed as a universal waste.

Old paints, solvents, and chemicals. Old household cleaners, pesticides, wood strippers, and other chemicals may lose their original potency but can still be hazardous. Contact your local solid waste/recycling facility to see if they will take these products from a business. If not, you will need to contract with a hazardous waste disposal contractor to dispose of these wastes. Your park may also have suggestions on who to call.

Best management practices. When disposing or donating any of the products referenced in this article, keep a written record of how you disposed, recycled, or donated them.

When donating items that contain hazardous materials to charities, inform them that you are transferring responsibility for managing those hazardous materials to their organization. Call the *GreenLine* Number (303/987-6913) or send a message to the *GreenLine* Email address (NPS_GreenLine@nps.gov) for a sample letter that can help you convey this information.



After using the product in your aerosol can for its intended purpose, consider recycling the empty container.

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GreenLine Assistance

If you require technical assistance on environmental issues or want to learn more about the Concession Environmental Management Program (CoEMP), contact us:

GreenLine Number:
303/987-6913



Email:
NPS_GreenLine@nps.gov



Website:
concessions.nps.gov,
click "CoEMP"



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CoEMP Corner: Keeping Our Backyard Clean

"Long range planning does not deal with future decisions, but the future of our present decisions."
Peter F. Drucker, writer, management consultant, and university professor

It's springtime as I write this, and I'm planning one of my many car trips to the mountains of Colorado. Before I leave, I often go through a mental checklist to make sure my car is prepared for the voyage:

- Do I have enough antifreeze?
- Does my car need an oil change?
- Do I need to replace my cell phone, which has a broken antenna, so that if my car breaks down, I can call for help?
- Do I need to use glass cleaner on the inside of the windshield so I can see clearly?



NPS Concession Environmental Management Program (CoEMP) team accepting the 2004 Department of the Interior Environmental Achievement Award in Washington, D.C.

All of us engage in similar planning activities everyday. What is sometimes forgotten is the impact our choices have on our natural environment. So when planning my trips, I also consider how I will manage the wastes generated from using antifreeze, oil, cell phones, and chemical cleaners.

This issue of the *GreenLine* Newsletter gives you ideas on how to dispose of some everyday wastes in order to help you do your part to preserve our natural resources – including those in our national parks. Just as we try to protect our own backyards through wise choices, it also makes sense to protect our nation's backyards.

Elsewhere in this issue, we highlight those concessioners recognized for their environmental programs and efforts by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the National Park Service when they were awarded with

the 2004 Environmental Achievement Awards. At the DOI award ceremony, concessioners were joined by our very own Concession Environmental Management Program (CoEMP) team, who also received an Environmental Achievement Award.

We applaud each of you for your efforts to improve your environmental performance and continue to help protect our natural resources. Much has been accomplished, but much remains to be done. Together we can continue to make sure our parks serve as showcases for sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Wendy M. Berhman
Team Leader
Concession Environmental Management Program