

National Park Service
2003 Environmental Achievement Awards
Honorable Mention

Mammoth Cave National Park

In 2001, Mammoth Cave National Park, a designated Center for Environmental Innovation, formed an Environmental Leadership Committee. The committee prepared the Park's "Strategic Plan for Environmental Leadership" in 2002. To date, the Park has either completed or begun work on 77% of the plan action items. The following lists some of the noteworthy accomplishments that have resulted from the implementation of this plan:

- Converted 100% of its vehicle fleet of passenger cars and light trucks to alternative fuels. Virtually all diesel equipment operated by both the Park and by the concessioner use bio-diesel fuel.
- Continued to implement a comprehensive recycling program for paper, plastic, bottles, aluminum and tin cans, copier cartridges, phone books, catalogues, cardboard, scrap metal, oil, newspaper, and kitchen grease.
- Mass-produced four products: a narrated power point presentation; a site bulletin hand-out; a pop-up display; and a section on the Park's web site.
- Developed and implemented a comprehensive green procurement program that mandates the use of "green" products. All contracts have required "green" clauses that mandate the use of "green" materials. Contractors are also required to implement a waste reduction program.
- Implemented routine purchasing of products made from recycled materials, including: copier paper, toilet paper, facial tissue, paper clips, toner cartridges for printers, faxes, & copiers, telephones, and lumber.
- Organized an Environmental Leadership Workshop for over 50 participants, including National Park Service employees from National Parks in the Southeast, representatives from local area governments, staff members from other Federal agencies, partners, and private businesses.
- Installed conservation sensors on water fixtures for toilets and sinks.
- Equipped new buildings with energy-saving, motion-activated light sensors
- Reduced use of batteries in the Park by 85% from use of LED lights on the Wild Cave tour,
- Designed a new water system with at least a 20% savings of water use.
- Replaced the six miles of cave lighting with LED and new technology lamps that will significantly reduce life-cycle cost.
- Developed and coordinated the implementation of a Hazmat Response Plan to minimize the impact of hazardous material incidents outside the Park on the sensitive cave hydrologic system.