

National Park Service
2007 Environmental Achievement Awards

Honorable Mention
California Guest Services, Inc., Concessioner
Lassen Volcanic National Park
“Green Buying for Operations and Sales”

Between 2005 and 2006, California Guest Services (CGS), concessioner at Lassen Volcanic National Park, significantly improved its environmental purchasing program by increasing its use and offering of environmental-friendly products in four key areas:

- **Food and Beverage Operations** - CGS serves only organic, fair-trade certified, and shade grown coffees in all its concession operations. In 2006, over 400 pounds of these coffees were served. In its small retail store, CGS sells products from Pacific Sun Olive Oil - a local, woman-owned, family run, sustainable farming operation that produces high quality olive oil products.
- **Serviceware and Supplies** - At Drakesbed Guest Ranch, CGS replaced plastic cups in hotel rooms with cups that are compostable and made entirely from renewable Nebraska corn. In addition, CGS switched to 100% biodegradable, recycled, chlorine-free, and compostable cups in its retail stores. Since 2002, CGS has used compostable, corn-based serviceware and cutlery in its food service operations. CGS also uses 100% compostable trash bags, and provides 100% biodegradable and compostable plastic grocery bags to customers at its retail stores.
- **Retail Items** - CGS sells 100% recycled cotton shirts and shirts made from 100% organic cotton. Also offered for sale in its retail stores are fire logs made from woodchips and sawdust from mills and forest trimming operations. Natural wood lignin binds these materials so there is no need for petroleum or chemical binders. These logs burn longer and emit 25-50% less carbon dioxide than traditional cordwood. CGS-operated retail stores also stock insect repellent, candles, and soap made with essential oils.
- **Housekeeping and Janitorial Products** - In 2006, CGS used seventy-one gallons of natural, non-toxic cleaners and detergents.