

National Park Service  
2013 Environmental Achievement Awards

**Winner**

**Rene Ohms, Physical Science Technician**  
**Jewel Cave National Monument**  
*One Person at a Small Park Can Make a Big Difference*

As chair of the Jewel Cave National Monument Green Team, Ms. Rene Ohms has led the way in helping the park green its operations, and has changed how park employees view the importance of sustainability.

In FY12, Ms. Ohms oversaw the completion of greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories which allowed the park to achieve Milestone 2 of the Climate Friendly Parks (CFP) Program. To reduce costs, Ms. Ohms utilized an in-park volunteer to enter all the GHG inventory data into the NPS Climate Leadership in Parks Tool.

Additionally, Ms. Ohms led the effort to complete a modified environmental management system (MEMS) and a CFP Plan for the park—the last milestone in achieving CFP member status. As a result of Ms. Ohms' efforts, the park has achieved member status in the CFP program.

Furthermore, Ms. Ohms continues to educate and motivate not only employees at Jewel Cave, but employees at other parks in the Black Hills region of South Dakota. She organized and led two CFP workshops for the park and eight other parks in the Black Hills. The workshops were a great success, and helped all the parks get closer to achieving CFP member status.

Due to her efforts, Jewel Cave National Monument has become a champion of sustainability in the NPS. Through leadership and education, she has shown that a single employee can help meet the park's own sustainability and climate change goals, as well as the established servicewide goals.