



Green Parks Year in Review

The *Green Parks Plan* (GPP) — released on Earth Day 2012 — defines the National Park Service’s (NPS) collective vision and strategic plan for sustainable operations through pursuit of sustainability goals. This document presents 2013 progress toward meeting the goals.

Green Parks Plan Goals

The GPP specifies nine goals designed to lessen the NPS impact on the environment and improve human welfare:

-  Continuously Improve Environmental Performance
-  Buy Green and Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle
-  Be Climate Friendly and Climate Ready
-  Preserve Outdoor Values
-  Be Energy Smart
-  Adopt Best Practices
-  Be Water Wise
-  Foster Sustainability Beyond Our Boundaries
-  Green Our Rides

Five of these nine goals can be measured. As of 2013:

The NPS is on track to achieve three of five measured GPP goals:

- ✓ **Be Climate Friendly and Climate Ready** — by reducing GHG emissions
- ✓ **Be Water Wise** — by reducing water consumption
- ✓ **Buy Green and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** — by diverting waste from landfills

The NPS needs to improve performance with respect to two of the measured GPP goals:

- **Be Energy Smart** — by increasing building efficiency and use of renewable energy.
- **Green Our Rides** — by increasing our fleet fuel efficiency and use of alternative fuels.

Much progress has been made to date thanks to the innovation, collaboration, and leadership by NPS staff. As examples:

- Parks in the Alaska region installed renewable energy systems — including Kenai Fjords National Park, Denali National Park, and Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, among others.
- Several parks in the Intermountain Region obtained Clean Cities grants to improve fleet efficiency — Mesa Verde National Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, and San Antonio Missions National Historical Park.
- The Midwest Region created and implemented a region-wide Environmental Management System.
- The National Capital Region initiated the development of an Energy Saving Performance Contract (ESPC) for all parks in the region.
- Ten national parks in the Northeast Region completed Climate Friendly Park workshops.
- The Pacific West Region created and released a regional Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.
- Parks in the Southeast Region completed energy retrofit projects — including Natchez Trace Parkway, Shiloh National Military Park, and Jimmy Carter National Historic Site.



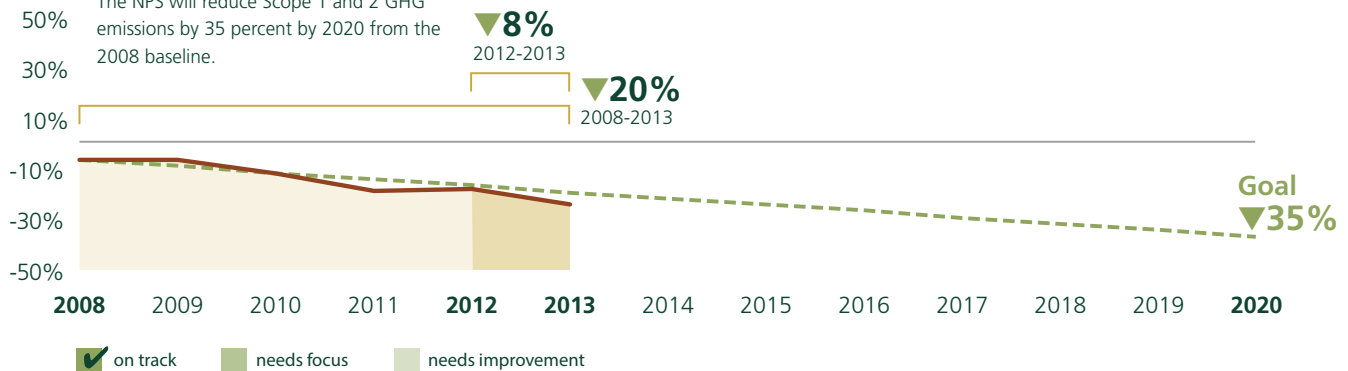
Tracking Progress

The following graphics summarize our 2013 Servicewide progress toward meeting the five measured goals noted above.

Be Climate Friendly and Climate Ready

Scope 1 and 2 GHG Emissions¹

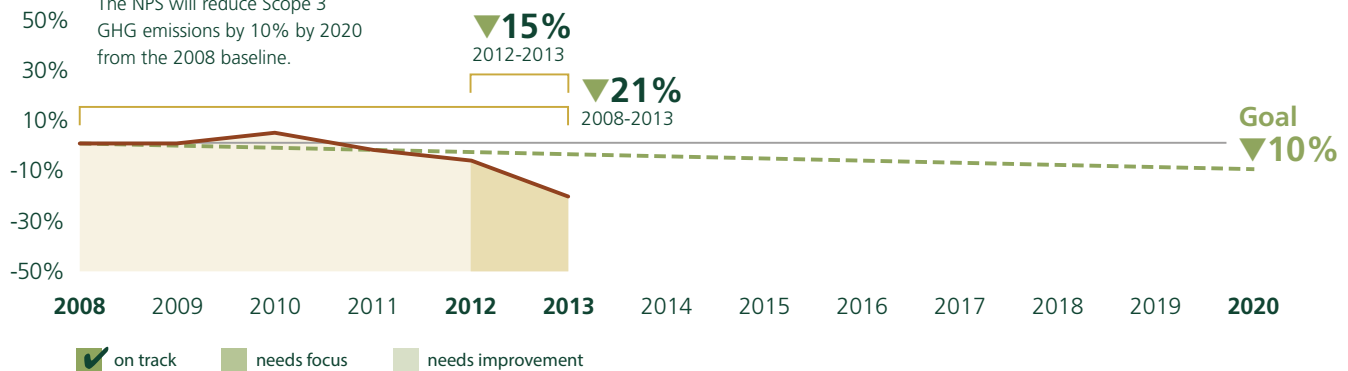
The NPS will reduce Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 35 percent by 2020 from the 2008 baseline.



Be Climate Friendly and Climate Ready

Scope 3 GHG Emissions²

The NPS will reduce Scope 3 GHG emissions by 10% by 2020 from the 2008 baseline.



¹ Scope 1 and 2 emissions are associated with on-site fossil fuel combustion and electricity consumption from the grid, respectively.

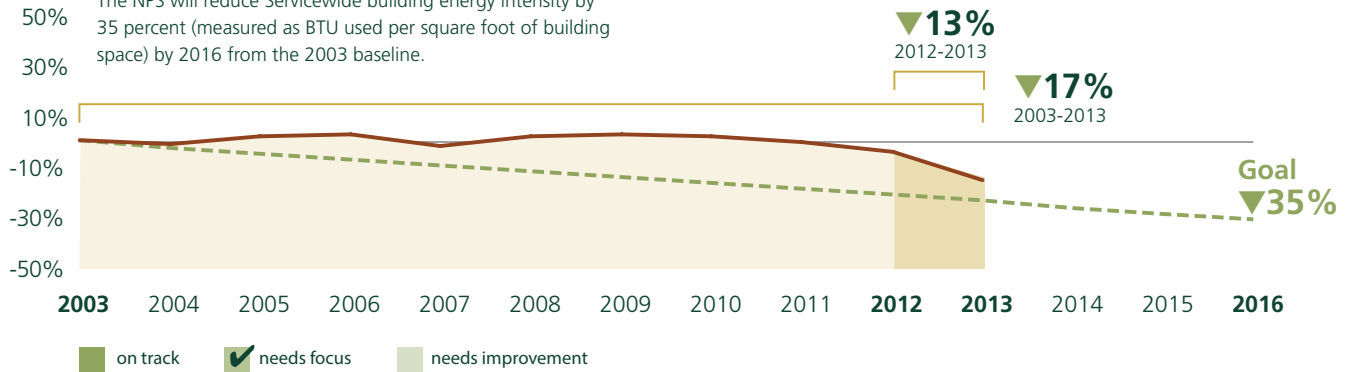
² Scope 3 emission sources such as commuter travel and off-site wastewater treatment are indirect in nature.



Be Energy Smart

Energy Intensity

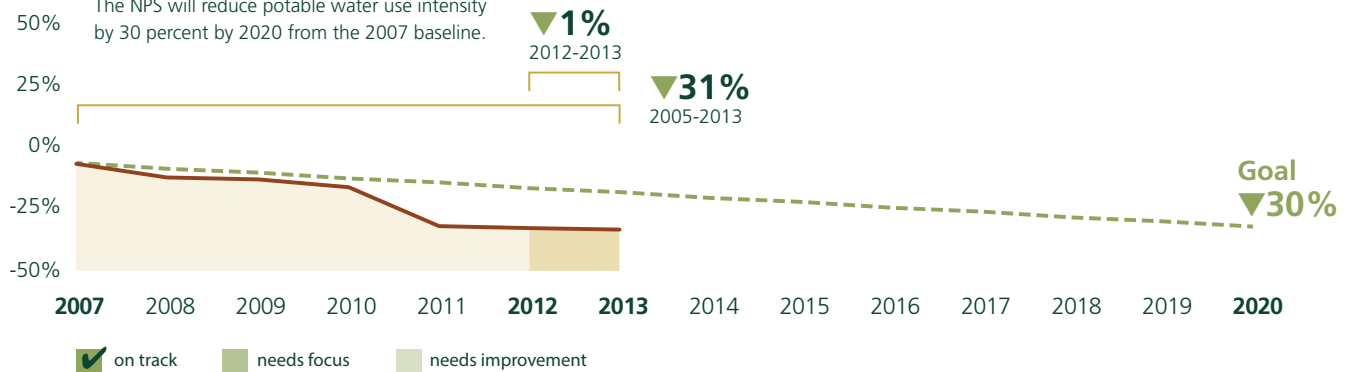
The NPS will reduce Servicewide building energy intensity by 35 percent (measured as BTU used per square foot of building space) by 2016 from the 2003 baseline.



Be Water Wise

Water Intensity

The NPS will reduce potable water use intensity by 30 percent by 2020 from the 2007 baseline.

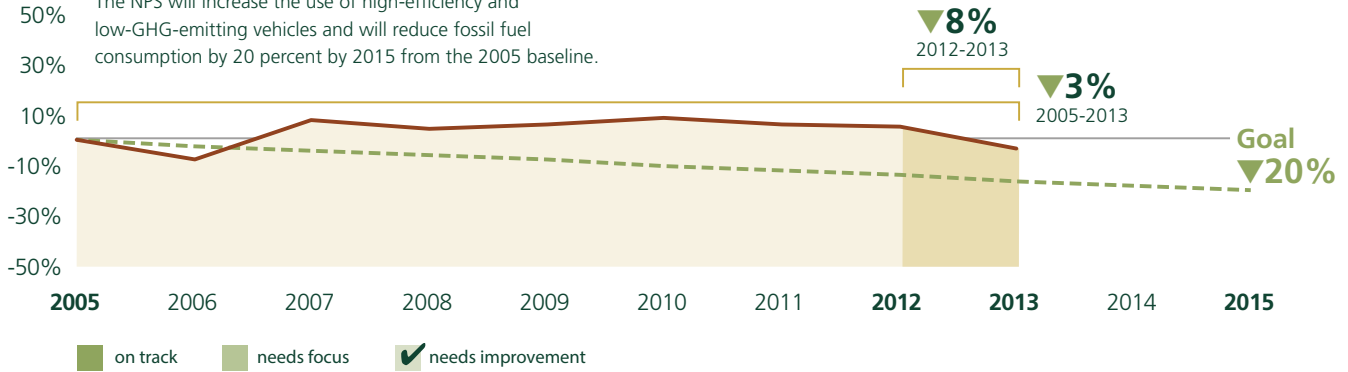




Green Our Rides

Covered Petroleum Fleet Fuel Consumption

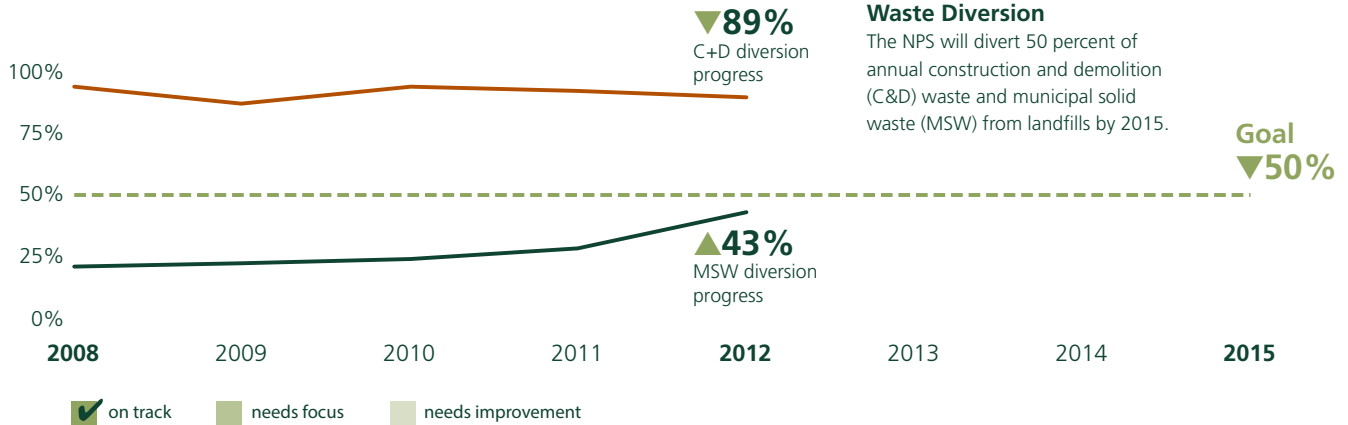
The NPS will increase the use of high-efficiency and low-GHG-emitting vehicles and will reduce fossil fuel consumption by 20 percent by 2015 from the 2005 baseline.



Buy Green and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Waste Diversion

The NPS will divert 50 percent of annual construction and demolition (C&D) waste and municipal solid waste (MSW) from landfills by 2015.





Conclusions

The NPS made good progress in 2013. Servicewide GHG emissions are down, waste diversion rates are up, and water use remains steady.

Three of the NPS's five measured GPP goals are on track, while two others need improvement.

- The NPS goal to Be Energy Smart requires additional focus. Parks and regions that are identifying and implementing energy conservation and efficiency measures as a part of their building renovations and those that are installing renewable energy systems are leading efforts to meet this goal.
- The NPS goal to Green Our Rides needs action. Parks and regions that are optimizing their fleets, traveling more efficiently and transitioning to alternative fuels are helping NPS make progress.

To further advance the NPS sustainability vision, we must continue to know how to improve by providing our staff with the information needed to make informed decisions. In doing so, we must invest with intent-maximizing and optimizing available funding by targeting parks and GPP goals where energy and water usage is high or inefficient or where performance lags, while recognizing that some parks and regions may face unique challenges that set the pace of improvements.

As we do these things, we must not forget to celebrate, share, and encourage improvement among NPS staff—it is their day-to-day decisions, dedication, and innovation that will advance the NPS mission through sustainable operations.

Through these efforts, the Service will continue to demonstrate that resource stewardship and sustainability are closely connected and that each activity that advances conservation deserves to be commended and shared. By working together across NPS divisions, in offices and parks, and with visitors and partners, we will continue to demonstrate our commitment to sustainability and uphold our shared mission to preserve our nation's natural and cultural resources for future generations.