

**“By working to motivate and expand investment in environmental technologies, cleaner production and green infrastructure, we can improve bottom lines while protecting the environment and building healthier communities.”** *Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator of the*

*Environmental Protection Agency, April 26, 2012*

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## CEQ News

### 2012 GreenGov Symposium – Preliminary Agenda Now Online

The 2012 GreenGov Symposium – *Leading by Example* will be held September 24 and 25, with post-conference meetings and workshops on September 26 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, DC. A preliminary agenda, with session titles, is now available on the [GreenGov Symposium website](#).

The sessions at this year's Symposium are meant to raise the question 'What does the future of sustainability look like to GreenGov attendees?' The Symposium is designed to allow attendees to fully explore and exchange ideas, challenges, and best practices between Federal, state and local governments, private sector, NGOs, and academic attendees. The sessions at the Symposium take a variety of different forms, such as 101 introductory, case studies, tools and 'no slides' discussion sessions. This year's Symposium will have featured sessions available via webcast for those who are unable to attend the Symposium. Webcast sessions, which will take place live at the Symposium, will cover different areas of sustainability, including sustainable communities, supply chain management, energy demand response, and open data. Symposium co-hosts, CEQ and the Association of Climate Change Officers, will continue to add updated information to the agenda on a regular basis. For the most up-to-date Symposium information, and to pre-register, visit [greengov2012.org](http://greengov2012.org)



## Agency News

### Great Green Fleet Debuts in Hawaii

On July 17, 2012, U.S. Navy ships and aircrafts operating on a blend of advanced biofuels and traditional petroleum-based fuel performed logistical support as part of the Navy's Great Green Fleet demonstration. Supporting the U.S. Pacific Fleet's biennial Rim of the Pacific exercise off Hawaii, the Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Henry J. Kaiser (T-AO 187) delivered 900,000 gallons of fuel comprised of waste cooking

oil, algae oil and traditional petroleum-based fuel to various ships in the Pacific Ocean. The biofuel delivery demonstration is part of the Navy's efforts to reduce energy consumption, decrease reliance on fossil fuels and significantly increase the use of alternative energy. The Great Green Fleet also utilizes other efficiency measures that save energy and optimize route planning for safety and fuel savings. To read more about the demonstration event and Great Green Fleet effort, go to [greenfleet.dodlive.mil](http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil).



Guided missile cruiser USS Princeton receives biofuel from replenishment oiler USNS Henry J. Kaiser. *Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy.*

### **2013 Better Buildings Federal Award Competition**

The Department of Energy is looking for the highest-performing federal buildings for the [2013 Better Buildings Federal Award Competition](#). Nominations for the second annual competition are open until September 7, 2012. The competition challenges participants to achieve the greatest reduction in energy consumed per square foot in the course of one year. Competitors are selected based on energy efficiency measures deployed in the facility, best practices in energy management undertaken by facility personnel, and institutional change programs used to encourage sustainability efforts. The progress of the [2012 competitors](#) can be monitored online, with the winner scheduled to be announced later this year.

### **Clean Cities Partnership for Sustainable National Parks**

The Department of Energy and the National Park Service are partnering to increase efficiency and alternative fuel use in vehicle fleets at five National Parks. The Shenandoah National Park, VA; Blue Ridge Parkway, VA; San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, TX; Golden Gate national Recreation Area, CA; and Mesa Verde National Park, CO combined have more than 32 million visitors annually. The projects taking place in the park will utilize alternative fuels, advanced technology vehicles, demonstrate ways to reduce vehicle idling, and showcase other actions drivers can take to save fuel and money. The work done as part of the partnership is expected to save \$250,000 and the fuel equivalent of nearly 16,000 gallons of gasoline.

This partnership builds off of three pilot projects launched in 2011 at Grand Teton National Park, WY; Yellowstone National Park, WY; and, Mammoth Cave National Park. The projects in these three parks are expected to save more than 13,000 equivalent gallons of gasoline. More information on Clean Cities and the National Parks is available [here](#).

### **Department of Interior and New York City Join Forces to Manage 10,000 Acres**

The National Park Service and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation signed an agreement on [July 17, 2012](#) to cooperatively manage 10,000 acres of federal and city parks, allowing work on each other's property, comingled resources, and joint planning. Targeting the land in and around the Jamaica Bay area, the agreement is part President Obama's [Great Outdoors Initiative](#). The goals of the Jamaica Bay agreement include: connecting land and trail systems; coordinating habitat restoration and research; advancing public transport to accessing the parks; and youth education.

### **Veterans Affairs' First Biomass Boiler Goes Online in Ohio**

The Chillicothe, OH Veterans Affairs Medical Center is now using a combination of biomass and natural gas for its heat and electricity needs. Fuelled with locally available wood chips, the VA estimates the new biomass boiler will provide 70% of the buildings's heat, saving the facility money and cutting down on emissions. The Medical Center plans to adjust the use of the biomass boiler on market conditions in comparison to natural gas. Built as a

replacement for the facility's 47-year old boiler, this is the first biomass boiler in the VA's portfolio to go online. To read more about the ribbon cutting ceremony for the biomass boiler, click [here](#).



### ***Announcements***

- CEQ Blog Entry – [Making Plans for GreenGov 2012](#)
- CEQ Blog Entry – [Advanced Vehicles: Advancing Our Communities](#)
- CEQ Blog Entry – [Youth Sustainability Challenge Winners](#)
- Chesapeake Bay Newsletter – [Spring 2012](#)

### ***Upcoming Events***

#### ***August***

- 8/2 [Contemporary Issues in Environmental Justice Webinar](#)
- 8/7 – 8/9 [North American Wind Energy Academy](#)
- 8/16 – 8/17 [Southeast Regional Environmental Justice Conference](#)
- 8/19 – 8/23 [StormCon 2012](#) – North American Surface Water Quality Conference
- 8/22- 8/24 – [Georgia Environmental Conference](#)
- 8/30 – [Federal Green Challenge Webinar: Reducing Transportation Impacts](#)

#### ***September***

- 9/9 – 9/12 – [WateReuse Symposium](#)
- 9/18 - 9/19 – [Pollution Prevention Awareness Webinar](#)
- 9/20 – [Federal Green Challenge Webinar: Reducing Water Consumption at Federal Facilities](#)
- 9/24 – 9/26 – [2012 GreenGov Symposium](#)

#### **Have success stories to share?**

We are interested in hearing what your agency has done in implementing energy efficient and environmentally preferable practices. Let us know what successes you have had and any savings you have realized. Send a brief description and photo if available to [greenov@fedcenter.gov](mailto:greenov@fedcenter.gov).

*Office of the Federal Environmental Executive - Council on Environmental Quality - Executive Office of the President*