

# The greengov Leader

Council on Environmental Quality

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**“By the middle of the next decade, our cars will get nearly 55 MPG, almost double what they get today. It will strengthen our nation's energy security and help create an economy built to last.”**

*- Remarks by President Obama on the new fuel efficiency standards, August 28, 2012*

## In this edition of the *GreenGov Leader*

### CEQ News:

- 2012 GreenGov Award Winners Announced
- Highlights from the 2012 GreenGov Symposium

### Agency News

- Sustainability at Arlington National Cemetery
- Naval Base Ventura County Succeeds at Demand Response

- ESPCs In Action Fort Bliss
- Army net Zero Initiatives in Italy and Germany
- Wind Energy at Cape Cod to Save \$1 Million

### From FedCenter.gov

- Announcements
- Upcoming Events

## CEQ News

### 2012 GreenGov Award Winners Announced

The GreenGov Presidential Awards honor Federal agency teams and individuals who exemplify President Obama's commitment to incorporating sustainability in the Federal Government's operations and *lead by example*. This year's winners were honored at a ceremony at the White House on Monday September 24, 2012 by White House Cabinet Secretary Christopher Lu and CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley.

The following are honorees in each category:

- **Building the Future** – Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, DPW, Environmental Division (Department of Defense)
- **Good Neighbor** – Montlake Laboratory Green Team (Department of Commerce)
- **Green Dream Team** – Sustainability Now! (Department of Homeland Security)
- **Green Innovation** – Mid-Atlantic Region Reverse Osmosis Team (General Services Administration)
- **Lean, Clean and Green**– Fleet Management Office, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (Department of Homeland Security) and Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka Naval Base (Department of Defense)
- **Sustainability Hero** – Dianne Lyons Shoaf (United States Postal Service)



*Winners of the Green Dream Team Award– Sustainability Now! , US Coast Guard Academy, Department of Homeland Security.*

For detailed descriptions of the honorees, please visit the GreenGov Presidential Awards page:

[http://www.fedcenter.gov/Announcements/index.cfm?id=22295&pge\\_prg\\_id=36303](http://www.fedcenter.gov/Announcements/index.cfm?id=22295&pge_prg_id=36303).

## Highlights from the 2012 GreenGov Symposium

The 2012 GreenGov Symposium – *Leading by Example* was a resounding success! The symposium, in its third year, featured nearly 300 speakers in 70 sessions. This year's attendance surpassed 1,000, with more than 50 Federal agencies, bureaus, departments, and installations represented. Attendees from federal, state and local governments, private sector, NGOs, and academia exchanged ideas, challenges, and best practices for sustainability in the Federal Government. Chair Sutley, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack were the keynote speakers for days one and two of the Symposium. Speaking to an overflow crowd, the keynote speakers discussed their agencies' work on the targets and goals in Executive Order 13514, and recent Administration announcements including the advancements in fuel efficiency standards and the Navy's use of biofuels.

Video coverage from the Symposium is available at:  
<http://www.bna.com/greengov2012-post/>.



EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson speaking on Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at the GreenGov Symposium. Photo credit: Eric Vance, EPA.

## Agency News

### Sustainability at Arlington National Cemetery

From recycled-content sidewalks and water-wise landscaping to an increasingly hybrid and electric vehicle fleet, the Arlington National Cemetery is incorporating sustainability into the day-to-day operations of the cemetery. The efforts at the Cemetery are saving money and enhancing the experience of the Cemetery's four million annual visitors.

The Cemetery's 624 acres of land are managed under sustainable landscaping techniques that reduce the use of pesticides and fertilizers, reduce water use, and limit storm water runoff. This water-wise approach to landscaping includes the use of native plants that can survive summer droughts with very little supplemental watering.

When the Arlington National Cemetery needed new sidewalks, an opportunity to make the Cemetery friendlier to both the environment and its visitors was presented. Pedestrians, who previously had to compete with tour buses when walking around the cemetery, can now walk on dedicated sidewalks created from nearly 67,000 recycled tires obtained locally. The recycled material cures in 24 hours, greatly minimizing disruption to the popular tourist destination. The new material is also less likely to crack or break and can withstand up to 90,000 pounds per square foot, thereby reducing future repair costs.

The Cemetery is also seeing benefits to recent changes in its fleet, including reduced petroleum fuel costs and an improved visitor experience. With a fleet of approximately 60 vehicles, the Cemetery uses ten electric vehicles, including two full-sized electric trucks, and nine hybrid vehicles, including one hybrid truck. Using alternative-fuel and electric vehicles has saved the Cemetery an estimated \$20,000 in fuel costs. These vehicles come with the added benefit of reduced noise while operating, which allows the employees to move around the Cemetery grounds while still being respectful to nearby graveside services.



One of the electric vehicles at Arlington National Cemetery.

## Naval Base Ventura County Succeeds at Demand Response

Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) is the newest participant in Southern California Edison's Demand Response program. By shutting down non-essential electrical devices between noon and 8 pm, NBVC not only reduced the load on California's electrical grid but also reduced its own electric bill. In its first four events alone, NBVC reduced its energy consumption by 17,338 kilowatt hours, resulting in a credit of \$6,530 toward their next electric bill.

Demand response has required only minor changes in operations. NBVC took simple steps such as:

- Turning off lights in unoccupied areas and areas receiving adequate daylight;
- Using table lighting instead of overhead lighting whenever possible;
- Turning off any unnecessary equipment, electronic devices, or lights;
- Turning off heating and air-conditioning except where absolutely necessary;
- Shifting high energy consumption activities outside of the noon to 8 p.m. time window; and,
- Shutting down all electronic devices and non-essential equipment at the end of day.

## Energy Savings Performance Contract in Action at Fort Bliss

As a pilot for the Army's [Net Zero Installations](#), Fort Bliss is [installing solar panels](#) next to the 1st Armored Division Headquarters. When the solar panels are fully operational by the end of 2012, the 1.4 megawatt system will provide 30 percent of the installation's energy use. The solar panel project is part of a \$16 million energy savings performance contract Fort Bliss awarded in December 2011. The energy projects constructed under the contract are expected to save Fort Bliss \$39 million over the next 24 years.

## Army Net Zero Initiatives in Italy and Germany

The Army is reducing its environmental footprint at home and abroad as part of the Army Net Zero initiatives. A [recent visit](#) to Army installations in Germany and Italy by Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy, and Environment, highlighted the Army's energy and cost-saving initiatives outside of the United States.

The Army Garrison Ansbach in Germany is the site of the Army's first use of passive energy homes, homes that are very well-insulated and virtually air-tight, thereby minimizing energy consumption during all times of the year. The Ansbach base is also opening a commissary in early 2013. The structure will include solar power generation, high-efficiency HVAC systems, non-ozone depleting refrigerants, as well as enhanced freezer and cooler insulation.

At Caserma Ederle, Italy, the Army has a co-generation central energy plant that is 35% more efficient than the former central heating plant. Built under an energy savings performance contract, the six million dollar project is expected to save \$800,000 in energy bills annually. In addition to increased efficiency, the plant was modified to power mission critical facilities when commercial power is offline. Caserma Ederle is also investing in renewable energy, with photovoltaic projects for family housing. The energy savings of photovoltaic systems on 19 buildings are expected reduce energy bills by \$280,000 annually. The savings are expected to pay for the system within an eight-year time frame.

## Wind Energy at Cape Cod to Save \$1 Million

Air Force Space Command is preparing to install [two 1.6 megawatt wind turbines](#) at the Cape Cod Air Force Station's early warning radar site. The wind turbines will help off-set the electricity costs at the station, where the Air Force is paying one of the highest utility rates in the nation, \$0.133 per kWh. The two turbines are expected to offset more than 50 percent of the station's electricity bill, for a projected annual savings of one million dollars. The savings from reduced electricity bills are expected to pay for the cost of the turbines in 12 years.

The Air Force Space Command is located at the Massachusetts Military Reservation, a 30 square-mile site that is home to facilities for the Massachusetts Air and Army National Guard, the U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The Massachusetts Military Reservation currently has three wind turbines already in operation.



## Announcements

CEQ Blog – [GreenGov 2012; Leading by Example](#)

CEQ Blog – [Delivering Energy Savings to Taxpayers](#)

U.S. Army- September editions of the [Southern Review of Legislative & Regulatory Actions](#) and the [Northern Review of Legislative & Regulatory Actions](#)

## Upcoming Events

### October

10/2-10/4 [Labs21 2012 Conference](#)

10/10-10/12 [Future Powers Summit](#)

10/11 [Solar Energy for Water and Wastewater Utilities, webcast](#)

10/15-10/17 [Urban Waters and Sustainability Leadership Conference](#)

10/17-10/18 [2012 Naval Energy Forum](#)

### November

11/6-11/8 [Comprehensive Polychlorinated Biphenyls Training \(Classroom\)](#)

11/13-11/17 [Greenbuild](#)

11/27-11/29 [U.S. EPA Region 9, 20th Annual Tribal/EPA Conference](#)

11/27-11/30 [NWCC Wind Wildlife Research Meeting](#)

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