

Climate Friendly Parks – Gateway N.R.A. Workshop

June 3 – 4, 2003

Operationalizing the Concept of Sustainability

AGENDA

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2003

9:00-9:45: Setting the Stage

9:00-9:10: Introductions/Welcome (Billy Garrett)

9:10-9:30: Overview of the NPS Sustainability Program and the Climate Friendly Parks Initiative (Shawn Norton)

9:30-9:45: Objectives of this Workshop *including what the employee can expect to get out of this workshop* (Marc Koenings)

9:45-11:00: Where Have Our Actions Led Us

9:45-10:15: What We Know about Climate Change - and How It Affects Gateway (Proposed: Tony Socci of EPA and Rebecca Beavers of NPS)

This presentation would provide an overview of climate change, the greenhouse effect, and the sources that contribute to climate change. We also would provide a summary of how climate change can and already does affect Gateway NRA.

10:15-10:45: "Climate Change Jeopardy " (Karen Scott and others from NPS/EPA planning team)

Workshop participants will be selected to be contestants (done in teams to involve as many people as possible) in a game of Jeopardy based on climate change information. The purpose will be to clarify the science presented at 9:45 and dispel myths that a vast majority of the U.S. population seems to have about the causes and effects of global warming.

10:45-11:00: Q&A

11:00-11:15: Break

11:15-12:15: Where We Are Now in Addressing the Problem

11:15-11:30: What the Feds and the States Are Doing (Proposed: Kathryn Parker)

This presentation would cover the Administration's Climate Change initiatives (e.g., President's GHG/energy intensity goal and revamping of the 1605(b) program, NOAA's and EPA's roles, etc.) and actions underway in New York and New Jersey.

11:30-11:45: Actions Underway in the Business Community (Proposed: Marc will find a speaker)

What are business and industry doing and why? Also, e.g. a Ford representative could make a short presentation on their efforts to reduce emissions from motor vehicles within the park.

11:45 – 12:00 Q/A

12:00-12:45: Lunch

There will be materials on the tables that trigger discussion about environmental issues. These materials will be supplied by the Education Center as well as partners from Sandy Hook. EPA could provide climate change outreach materials from EPA and from other agencies and NGOs, in addition to the educational materials from Gateway, if you want.

12:45-2:30: GATEWAY'S EFFECT ON CLIMATE CHANGE RIGHT NOW...AND WHAT WE ARE DOING ABOUT IT

12:45-1:15: Gateway Greenhouse Gas Inventory Overview and Other Pertinent Data (Anne Choate)

This presentation would include an overview of the inventory process, the results of the inventory, and would attempt to put Gateway's emissions in the context of state and national emissions from relevant sources. In addition, this presentation would distinguish between indirect and direct emissions and would provide an explanation of why indirect emissions are included in the Gateway inventory. The presentation would emphasize key sources. Most importantly, the inventory would be used to set the stage for the action planning process.

1:15-1:30: Q&A

1:30-2:00: Actions Already Underway at Gateway and Options for Future Outreach and Park Planning (Dena Saslaw, or John Hnedak, or other Green Team member)

A Gateway representative will provide some details on GHG mitigation actions underway in the park (e.g., electric vehicles) and (with help from ICF if necessary) estimates of their associated GHG emission reductions.

In addition, the presenter will introduce possible ways for Gateway to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

(Possible to provide a report during this time slot on what parks like Zion have done as well...maybe Shawn could report on that, or maybe Zion has a video or photos or something we could show for added visuals...?)

2:00-2:15: Everyone Has a Role, Everyone is an Educator (Moderator: Peter Bonner)

This presentation would be as much a motivational speech as it would be an instructional one. The purpose would be to explain why it is important that all staff at the park take part in both reducing ghg emissions and in communicating the "climate-friendly" actions to the public. Some pointers can be given as to how to be an "everyday educator".

2:15-2:30: Q&A

2:30-2:45: Break

2:45-4:30: Charting a Course for Gateway

2:45-3:00: What Options Do We Have (Julie Thomas)

This presentation will describe a range of options that are available to individuals, businesses, industrial sites, universities, parks, etc., that want to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions for the sake of lessening their impact on global warming and to find ways to decrease operation costs.

3:00-3:15: Goals for Breakout Sessions: Describing our vision and identifying the key challenges to achieving that vision over the next 5-10 years. (Peter Bonner)

3:15-4:30: Facilitated Breakout Sessions

Participants in each group will be assigned, but we still need to decide on the groups' makeup. Each breakout group would be provided with an initial list of possible mitigation options and a list of tools and websites for more information.

This one-pager would be intended to spark conversation. At our meeting on April 21st we should discuss what the criteria for selecting actions will be and how much pre-workshop research will have been completed to enable participants to commit to quantitative targets. The groups will be "salted" with resource people.

ICF

(1) Building Facility Management

This breakout group would focus on energy efficiency and other facility-specific GHG mitigation strategies. The facilitator of this group would be armed with some ideas for mitigation in this area and could provide information on tools that are available for estimating GHG reductions from facility-related activities. It would be important to know if the park has already done some of this under FEMP.

⇒ parking lots [run off.

Grounds/Land Management

Turf Mgmt / Native Plantings / "Minimize heat islands"
⇒ shading

(3) Solid Waste and Wastewater Management

Solid Waste and Wastewater Management The facilitator of this group would spur conversation about possible mitigation strategies associated with solid waste management and wastewater treatment. The most likely direction for this group would be towards additional recycling and the facilitator would provide information on the WARM model and how the park could use WARM to estimate the benefits of recycling.

(4) Transportation

This group would focus on ways to reduce emissions from road and non-road vehicles in the park. The group's discussion would cover NPS-owned vehicles as well as those leased from GSA and driven by park visitors. The facilitator would provide information on how park officials could estimate the benefits of alternative transportation strategies using existing tools and conversion factors.

(5) Education and Community Outreach

This group would consider how educational activities within the park could be expanded to cover climate change. The facilitator for this group could begin with activities/lessons developed for the Outdoor Recreation and Wildlife toolkit and could point participants to the EPA database of climate change educational materials.

The outreach group would focus on how the park could spread information on climate change to its visitors and to the general public. In addition, the outreach group would consider public relations activities to promote the park's involvement in this initiative and its success at reducing emissions and thereby reducing the risks of climate change.

The purchasing discussion will go on in all the above groups and could use emission factors under development by EPA to consider the GHG and energy benefits of buying recycled products (e.g., paper) versus virgin products. The park's supply chain and the extent to which the park can stipulate the % recycled content of various goods will be considered.

4:30-5:00: Summaries of Visions, Challenges, and Benefits (?) Identified in Breakout Sessions and wrap-up for day (Peter Bonner and Group Leaders or Facilitators)

5:15-6:00: Optional Tour of the Park (Gateway Representative)

6:00-? Reception

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2003

9:00-9:30: Welcome, Recap of Day 1, and Goals for Day 2 (Peter Bonner and Group Leaders or Facilitators)

9:30-11:30: Facilitated Breakout Sessions (EPA/NPS facilitators)

These groups, which will be smaller (5-7 people, twice as many groups) will either be subdivisions of the prior day's groups or a totally new mix. We have to decide. The sessions will include a working lunch. Using the vision(s) articulated the previous day and the obstacles identified, the groups will be asked to describe how to achieve the vision: identify tasks, the people to tackle them, and a timeline for getting us where we want to go. A structured set of steps will be provided to the groups to help them accomplish this.

11:30-12:00: Check-in with Breakout Groups: Sharing Frustrations and Successes So Far (?)

12:00-1:00: Working Lunch (food brought in)

1:00-2:00: Break out groups: Wrap-up discussion and prepare for report-out

2:00-4:00: Dealing with Climate Change: How Gateway Will Prepare for Climate Change (Proposed: Moderator/Facilitator: Peter Bonner)

2:00-3:00: Report back from groups

3:00-4:00 Produce a prioritized outline, framework for a strategic plan, plan to make a plan for Gateway as a whole park

Who will lead this and how will it be managed? How to incorporate, vet the existing plan?

4:00-4:15: Closing Remarks

*High Champion
Ranking*

*Do you want
them to change behaviors
or to be
Born Again*