



About CFP

From seashores and islands to glaciers and deserts, the impacts of climate change are already taking their toll on America's national parks. As steward of these resources, the National Park Service is taking a leading role in climate change response. Through the Climate Friendly Parks (CFP) program, parks assess and reduce their contribution to climate change and educate staff and visitors about its impacts.

These actions help preserve America's treasures for future generations.



Leading By Example

Climate Friendly Parks are leading the effort to protect our nation's natural and cultural resources.



Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (APIS):

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore staff designed and installed nine photovoltaic systems throughout the park. These systems supply clean energy for 95 percent of Apostle Islands' ranger station and housing electricity needs.



Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DEWA):

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area installed a geothermal heating system in its historic Zimmermann House. The new system collects the earth's natural heat through a loop of liquid filled pipes and releases it into the 6,000 square foot building.



Everglades National Park (EVER):

Everglades National Park purchased, installed, and now uses trash compactors within the park. These compactors help the park save money on trash removal, reduce maintenance requirements, and reduce the number of trips for maintenance staff.



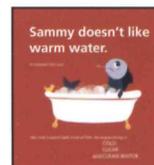
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HAVO):

Hawaii Volcanoes National Park developed and displayed a global warming wheel card that can be used by visitors to estimate their GHG emissions and learn what they can do to reduce them.



Lassen Volcanic National Park (LAVO):

Lassen Volcanic National Park constructed the new Kohm Yah-mah-nee LEED Platinum-certified visitor's center. This building is the first year-round LEED Platinum building in the National Park Service.



Lewis and Clark National Historic Park (LEWD):

Lewis and Clark National Historic Park developed a children's story about Sammy C. Salmon, to educate youth about the impacts of climate change on salmon in the Pacific West Region.



Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE):

Point Reyes National Seashore has installed eight photovoltaic systems throughout the park to reduce energy costs and educate visitors.



Zion National Park (ZION):

Zion National Park created a Green Team to further its education and outreach efforts and to oversee climate-friendly efforts throughout the park such as a water-bottle filling station to reduce plastic consumption in the park.

CFP Approach

The program follows a three-tiered approach: 1) measure and reduce park greenhouse gas emissions; 2) educate NPS staff and visitors about climate change, and demonstrate how individuals and groups can take action; and 3) develop strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.

Inventory

National parks count plants, animals, and other species to help them manage these and other valuable resources. In a similar manner, counting, or inventorying, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions helps national parks understand their contribution to climate change and identify opportunities to reduce, or mitigate, this contribution.



To inventory and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, the CFP Program developed the Climate Leadership in Parks (CLIP) Tool, which national parks use to:

- Estimate and report their GHG emissions
- Determine ways to reduce GHG emissions
- Calculate potential GHG emissions reductions
- Estimate financial savings/expenditures of potential mitigation actions
- Create a Climate Action Plan
- Monitor and improve progress over time

Educate and Demonstrate

National Parks can play an important role in raising awareness about climate change, its impacts, and its solutions. A better understanding of the problem and the benefits of reducing GHG emissions can motivate staff, visitors, and community members to incorporate climate friendly actions into their own lives.



The CFP program recognizes that the greatest potential impact our national parks can have on addressing climate change is through public education. From increasing the efficiency of public transportation to developing a green purchasing program, the actions Climate Friendly Parks take to address climate change serve as opportunities for increasing the public's awareness of climate change.

Climate Friendly Parks integrate climate change and sustainability education into their daily interactions with visitors. They work individually and collaboratively to produce signage, brochures and other interpretation materials, host interns, develop youth programs and work with surrounding communities to improve climate change awareness. Climate Friendly Parks also build capacity among their staff to ensure that all NPS employees are knowledgeable about the environmental benefits of energy conservation measures, fuel-efficient vehicles and other sustainability initiatives in parks.

Mitigate and Adapt

Climate change affects the way parks manage their resources and operations. National Parks must develop flexible strategies to both mitigate their contribution to climate change and adapt their facilities, operations and resources to its potential impacts. CFPs conduct workshops where they plan how to implement sustainability best practices and manage for the impacts of climate change on their operations and resources.



For More Information:

www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks

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