

Climate Leadership in National Parks





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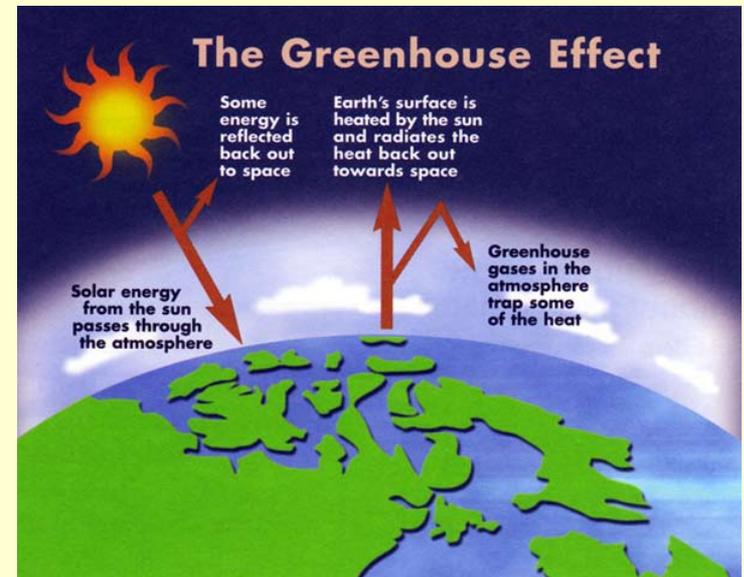
Overview



- What is the Climate Friendly Parks Program?
- What have we learned from our efforts
- Why is Recycling so Important
- Recycling on the Go in National Parks

The Climate is Changing

- The 1980s and 1990s are the warmest decades on record.
- The 10 warmest years in global meteorological history have all occurred in the past 15 years.
- The 20th century has been the warmest globally in the past 1000 years.



National Parks at Risk

- **Glaciers shrinking:** The loss of all glaciers in Glacier NP by 2030.
- **Rising ocean temperatures:** The loss of up to 25% of the coral reefs in Biscayne Bay by 2030.
- **Extinction of flora and fauna:** The loss of Moose from Isle Royale National Park by 2050.
- **Severe weather events:** Increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes, floods and drought and forest fires.





Climate Friendly Parks (CFP) Program



- Collaboration between National Park Service and Environmental Protection Agency.
- Measure park-based GHG and CAP emissions using the Climate Leadership in Parks Tool
- Develop sustainable strategies to mitigate emissions
- Educate the public about NPS's efforts to address climate change
- Empower individuals to “Do Your Part”



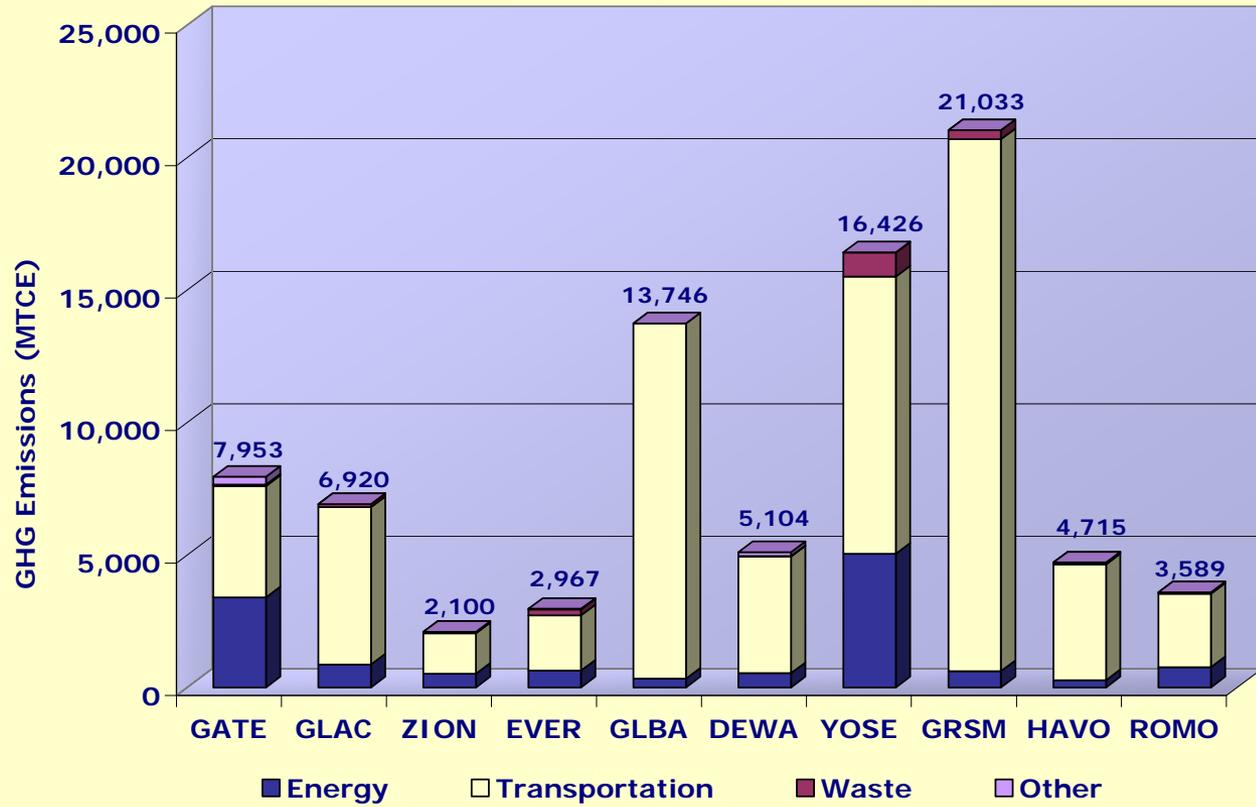
Current Climate Friendly Parks



- Gateway (June, 2003)
- Glacier (April, 2004)
- Zion (September, 2004)
- Everglades (June, 2005)
- Glacier Bay (October, 2005)
- Delaware Water Gap (November, 2005)
- Yosemite (April, 2006)
- Great Smokey Mountain (Dec, 2006)
- Hawaii Volcanoes (February, 2007)
- Rocky Mountain (March, 2007)
- Apostle Islands (2007)
- Pictured Rocks Lakeshore (2007)



Climate Friendly Park (CFP) Emission Inventories



What Have We Learned

- The big three GHG emission sources are vehicles, buildings and solid waste generation.
- Strategies to reduce GHGs have the co-benefit of reducing solid waste and other pollutants.
- Climate friendly actions compliment EMS and other park sustainability planning.
- Most parks are net carbon sinks but there are many variables (fire management, urban vs. remote setting).
- Visitor education remains the key.





Example NPS “Recycling on the Go Actions”



- Rock Creek National Park – Tennis Tournament and Performing Arts Center
- Wolf Trap NP – Recycling Improvement Plan
- The National Mall - Cherry Blossom Festival and Master Plan
- Future Park Expansion...