



The Solutions Network

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Rochester, New York

# Promoting Sustainability in the Federal Government

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# Highlights

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- ❖ We've made great progress getting here
- ❖ Lots of folks are working on sustainability in the Federal government
- ❖ And we've got a big vision



## Federal Leadership

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“[I]t is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in cooperation with State and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations ... to create and maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony, and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans.” NEPA, 1969



## Over the last 30 years...

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- ❖ Our economy grew 164%
- ❖ Our population grew 39%
- ❖ Our energy consumption increased 42%



## We've made incredible progress

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- ❖ Key air pollutants have decreased 25%
- ❖ Toxic releases are down 48%
- ❖ Number of citizens who benefit from modern wastewater treatment doubled **(86 million to 165 million)**



# Incredible Progress

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- ❖ Energy use has grown at 1/4 of economic growth
- ❖ Renewable energy generation is up 30%
- ❖ Our health is improving – life expectancy is a record 77.4 years



# Federal Government's Progress

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- ❖ Cut building energy intensity by 23%
- ❖ Cut greenhouse gas emissions by 2.8 million metric tons
- ❖ Tripled renewable energy purchases
- ❖ 125 Federal buildings are Energy Star
- ❖ Significant waste reduction and recycling accomplishments



## ... But Challenges Remain

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So the Federal Government should:

- Lead by example
- Be a good steward
- Be a good neighbor



# So who's working on sustainability in the Federal government?

August 8-11, 2004

[www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov](http://www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov)



# Office of the Federal Environmental Executive

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- ❖ Created by Executive Order in 1993
- ❖ Reports to White House CEQ
- ❖ Funded by EPA
- ❖ Responsibilities & mission have grown
- ❖ [www.ofee.gov](http://www.ofee.gov)



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# What We Do

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Mission: Promote sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the Federal government

Strategic Tool: Environmental management systems

Sustainable Practices:

- Waste prevention and recycling
- Green purchasing
- Green buildings
- Electronics stewardship



## How We Do it

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- ❖ Training and awareness
- ❖ Sharing success stories, lessons learned, and best practices
- ❖ Measuring and reporting
- ❖ Facilitating dialogue
- ❖ Creating and expanding networks
- ❖ Liaison within the Administration



# Interagency Sustainability Working Group

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- ❖ Devoted to green buildings
- ❖ Led by DOE/FEMP
- ❖ Developed Business Case report
- ❖ Whole Building Design Guide
  - [www.wbdg.org](http://www.wbdg.org)
- ❖ Assisting Federal Green Building Council



# Federal Network for Sustainability

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- ❖ Created in April 2000
- ❖ Team of western Federal agencies
- ❖ Working together on:
  - Electronics stewardship
  - EMS training
  - Purchasing green power
  - Copy paper
- ❖ [www.federalsustainability.gov](http://www.federalsustainability.gov)



# EPA's P3 Strategy

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- ❖ Beyond P2
- ❖ People, Prosperity, and Planet
- ❖ Student design competition
  - [www.epa.gov/p3](http://www.epa.gov/p3)
- ❖ Working to pull together various efforts
  - [www.epa.gov/sustainability](http://www.epa.gov/sustainability)



# State Department's Partnerships

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- ❖ Link environmental stewardship, economic growth, and social development to lift people out of poverty
- ❖ \$5 billion increase (3 years) in development assistance
- ❖ \$15 billion (5 years) to fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria.
- ❖ More than 20 partnerships – from Congo Basin Forests to Coral Reefs
- ❖ [www.sdp.gov](http://www.sdp.gov)



# DOD's Sustainable Installations Program

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- ❖ 8 bases
- ❖ Working with communities, setting 25-year goals
- ❖ Zero waste, 100% renewable energy
- ❖ [www.envquest.com](http://www.envquest.com)



# Federal Green Building Council

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- ❖ Created to implement report recommendations
- ❖ Performance metrics
- ❖ Life cycle tools
- ❖ R&D inventory
- ❖ Pool and share information

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[www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov](http://www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov)



# Why focus on buildings?

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[www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov](http://www.energy2004.ee.doe.gov)



## We're Big

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- ❖ Own nearly 500,000 buildings
- ❖ Cover 3.1 billion square feet
- ❖ 0.4% of U.S. energy use
- ❖ 2% of U.S. building-related GHGs
  
- ❖ Buildings affect land use, energy use, communities, and the indoor and outdoor environment



# Showcase

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- ❖ Buildings can be a showcase to educate people about environmental issues and solutions
- ❖ More than 200 million people visit National Parks

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# Integration

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- ❖ Green buildings represent the application in one place of many sustainable concepts

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## First Step: Where Are We?

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- ❖ Surveyed the agencies
- ❖ In September 2003, issued a report
  - The Federal Commitment to Green Buildings: Experience and Expectations
- ❖ Policies, practices, recommendations



# Policies

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- ❖ Energy Policy Act of 1992 & EO 13123:
  - Cut energy use by 35% by 2010 “apply [sustainable design] principles to the siting, design, and construction of new facilities”
- ❖ OMB A-11 says use Energy Star or Leadership for Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)



## Surprise!

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- ❖ Most of the Federal government requires new construction and major renovation to achieve a green rating
- ❖ Nine departments/agencies:
  - **Army, Navy/Marines, Air Force, GSA, EPA, NASA, NPS, State Dept., HHS**



## Results

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- ❖ Cut energy intensity 23%
- ❖ Cut carbon emissions 2.8 MMTCE
- ❖ 125 buildings are Energy Star
- ❖ 60 buildings are undergoing LEED certification
- ❖ 10 have already achieved LEED



## So what's next?

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- ❖ Energy Policy Act of 2004 would raise energy efficiency and renewable energy requirements and codify EO 13123's "apply sustainable design"
- ❖ U.S. Green Building Council
- ❖ Federal Green Building Council



# Federal Green Building Council

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# Five Strategies for Sustainability

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1. Integrate our environmental work
2. Integrate environmental issues into our mission
3. Integrate environmental issues across jurisdictions
4. Integrate decision making across time
5. Integrate sustainability into our lives