

Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Facility Management Division



# 2016 Sustainable Transportation Awards & Forum

Greening Great Smoky  
Mountains

Alternative  
tive

May 13,  
2016



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

# Great Smoky Mountain National Park Facility Management Division



Our Mission...to protect/maintain the cultural and natural resources of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and to provide enjoyment for our visitors.



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## Park Overview

Over 500,000 acres - 5  
Counties in 2 States

Over 10 million visitors  
- most visited in the  
Service

324 Buildings plus 120

Historic structures

10 Campgrounds - over  
1,000 campsites

27 Waste Water System and 28 Water  
Systems

238 Miles of Paved Roads/126 Miles of  
Unpaved Roads

301 Parking areas - 1,000 spaces

848 Miles of Trails/84 Campsites/16  
Shelters/3 Bunkhouses

150 Cemeteries - 4,847 Graves

227 Park passenger vehicles - 43 Bio-  
diesel



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### In the beginning...

- October 2004: East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition Partnership GRSM signatory for Coalition's designation.
- Early 2000s - Land-of-Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition - assisted with federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grants
- Climate Friendly Park status - 2006, completed Action Plan - Air Quality - non attainment issues (O<sub>2</sub> and PM 2.5)
- The Park's CFP Action Plan calls for the Park to "Reduce 2006 transportation-related Green House Gas (GHG) emissions from park operations by 20 percent by 2020"
- The Park started utilizing alternative fuels starting with B20 in all of its diesel vehicles and buildings in 2006.

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## Greening Great Smoky Mountains National Park

- May 2013 - Planning for a Greener Tomorrow - DOE Clean Cities National Parks Initiative Proposal Submission for Year One Funding - \$248,700
  - Purpose: Identify opportunities that educate and enhance the visitor experience and identify options for greening park operations and right sizing the fleet
  - Replace three gasoline vehicles with three Vantage Neighborhood Electric Trucks
  - Install two DCFC and two Level 2 charging stations at Sugarlands and Oconaluftee Visitor Centers (Tennessee and North Carolina)
  - Convert five gasoline mowers to propane and purchase appropriate number of fueling tanks and racks
  - Install Be Our Idol Don't Idle signs at Sugarlands and Oconaluftee Visitor Centers, Newfound Gap Overlook, and

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## Our Partners in Crime

Jonathan Overly, ETCFC



Andrew Hodgins, US DOE Clean  
Cities



Terry Maddox, GSMA, Now  
Retired Executive Director



Cornelius Willingham,  
Nissan USA Southeast  
Operations



Bill Eaker, Land-of-Sky Clean Vehicles  
Coalition



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## Lessons Learned

- **Start early, plan well**
- **Expect the unexpected**
  - **Know your power supply and supplier**
  - **Payment Methods**
  - **Communication**
  - **Contracting**
- **Always costs more than you budgeted**
- **Training, training, training**
- **Communication - Signage**

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# The Finale



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# Great Smoky Mountains Video

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