

# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

## Agency-Wide Priority Measures

### *Strategic Plan Objective 2: Improving Lands or Habitats*

<b>Measure EN4</b>	Number of acres of national parks, state parks, city parks, county parks, or other public and tribal lands that are improved.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p><b>National parks, State parks, city parks, county parks:</b> Park/recreation areas that are designated by national, state, city, or county governments (not trails or rivers; see #5)</p> <p><b>Other public lands:</b> Other publicly owned lands</p> <p><b>Tribal lands:</b> Same meaning as imparted by the definitions of “Indian Lands” and “Indian Tribes” provided in. <b>SEC. 101. [42 U.S.C. 12511] Definitions</b> (<a href="http://www.americorps.gov/help/ac_sn_all/ASN_Megasearch_Site.htm">http://www.americorps.gov/help/ac_sn_all/ASN_Megasearch_Site.htm</a>)</p> <p><b>Improved:</b> Restored to reduce human impact, removed invasive species, established native plants, built riparian buffers, cleared of natural debris (such as fallen trees/limbs) and unnatural debris (such as hazardous fuel and waste). Improvements must go beyond basic trash removal.</p>
<b>How to Calculate/ Measure/ Collect Data</b>	<p>Count of number of acres that are improved. Count each acre that is improved only once during the program year. It may be necessary to improve an acre more than once, but it should be counted only once. Only count the acres that are actually improved; do not count the entire park/land area unless your project improves the entire area.</p> <p>Tracking document, survey or acknowledgement of receipt of services from entity that owns or administers the area improved.</p> <p>CNCS encourages applicants and grantees to perform service with the greatest impact versus providing minimal impact to the highest number of acres. The applicant or grantee should identify a certain deficiency or serious environmental risk or describe a compelling problem that is well documented and propose an evidence-based intervention to address the problem and restore the land or habitat to a quality ecosystem. The evidence-base could be a governmental land management improvement plan if it addresses the targeted problem, and is preferably an identified priority in the plan, although it is preferable to also describe how the proposed intervention will return the targeted area to a quality environment and relevant evidence to support the value of the intervention. For example, while conducting seasonal maintenance may allow a grantee to report greater numbers of acres “improved”, it is less likely to be selected for funding if it does not address a compelling environmental problem, deficiency, risk or priority (ideally one that has been documented in a governmental land management improvement plan).</p>

<b>Measure ENS</b>	Number of miles of trails or waterways (owned/maintained by national, state, county, city or tribal governments) that are improved, and/or created.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p><b>Trails:</b> For walking, running, biking, or horses.</p> <p><b>Waterways:</b> Includes rivers, lakes and other bodies of water used for swimming, boating, fishing, or other forms of water-based recreation.</p> <p><b>Improved:</b> Restored to reduce human impact, removed invasive species, established native plants, built riparian buffers, cleared of natural debris (such as fallen trees/limbs) and unnatural debris (such as hazardous fuel and waste). Improvements must go beyond basic trash removal.</p> <p><b>Created:</b> Implementing safety measures, making handicapped accessible, or environmental protection measures such as boardwalks, grading, trail-blazing, converting a railroad bed to a trail, etc. that make trails newly available.</p>
<b>How to Calculate/ Measure/ Collect Data</b>	<p>Sum of number of miles of trails and/or waterways that are improved, and/or created. Count each mile only once during the program year. Count the area improved on/in the trail/waterway and immediately next to the trail/waterway. It may be necessary to improve the same mile of trail/waterway more than once but include in count only once. If, for example, the program or project is to improve a trail, then the whole width of the trail that is being improved can be counted, not just the width of the fencing. If the lack of a trail has led to damage in the area, then the area of that restoration/repair work would count too.</p> <p>If you measure your work in feet and not miles, you may convert square feet into square miles. 1 square foot = 0.000000358700643 square miles.</p> <p>As a general rule of thumb, adhere to the resource management standards for riparian work specified by USDA's Natural Conservation Practice Standard "Riparian Herbaceous Cover": <a href="http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html">http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html</a>. Additional Criteria to Maintain or Improve Water Quality and Quantity: Minimum width shall be increased to 2.5 times the stream width (based on the horizontal distance between bank-full elevations) or 35 feet for water bodies.</p> <p>CNCS encourages applicants and grantees to perform service with the greatest impact versus providing minimal impact to the highest number of miles. The applicant or grantee should identify a certain deficiency or serious environmental risk or describe a compelling problem that is well documented and propose an evidence-based intervention to address the problem and restore the trail or waterway to a quality ecosystem. The evidence-base could be a governmental land management improvement plan if it addresses the targeted problem, and is preferably an identified priority in the plan, although it is preferable to also describe how the proposed intervention will return the targeted area to a quality environment and relevant evidence to support the value of the intervention. For example, while conducting seasonal maintenance may allow a grantee to report greater numbers of miles "improved", it is less likely to be selected for funding if it does not address a compelling environmental problem, deficiency, risk or priority (ideally one that has been documented in a governmental land management improvement plan).</p> <p>Tracking document, survey or acknowledgement of receipt of services from entity that owns or administers the trail or waterways improved.</p>

## Complementary Program Measures

### *Strategic Plan Objective 1: Improving the Energy Efficiency of Structures*

<b>Measure EN1</b>	Number of housing units of low-income households and structures weatherized or retrofitted to significantly improve energy efficiency.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p><b>Housing Unit:</b> single family home, mobile home, apartment unit, each side of duplex would count as 1.</p> <p><b>Low income:</b> 200% of poverty or the updated level as found at: <a href="http://www.waptac.org/">http://www.waptac.org/</a></p> <p><b>Weatherization/retrofitted:</b> See the U.S. Department of Energy. Helpful information can be found at the following links: <a href="http://www.waptac.org/">http://www.waptac.org/</a> or <a href="http://www.energysavers.gov/">http://www.energysavers.gov/</a></p> <p><b>Weatherization:</b> Modifying a building to reduce energy consumption and costs and optimize energy efficiency. Whole-house weatherization includes the installation of modern energy-saving heating and cooling equipment and looks at how the house performs as a system.</p> <p><b>Retrofit:</b> An energy conservation measure applied to an existing building or the action of improving the thermal performance or maintenance of a building.</p> <p><b>Structures:</b> Shelters, such as homeless shelters or emergency shelters operated by nonprofit or public organizations; each structure would count as 1.</p> <p><b>Significantly improve energy efficiency:</b> Physical improvements to housing or building structures that improve energy-efficiency by greater than 15% compared to standard new units built to local building code or the unit's existing energy efficiency, respectively.</p>
<b>How to Calculate/ Measure/ Collect Data</b>	Count only those units/structures where the work was fully completed as evidenced by a Certificate of Occupancy; where not required, get a written statement from resident or owner or some other certification of completion.
<b>Additional Notes</b>	<p>U.S. Department of Energy has training programs, definitions, and tools to assist in these efforts. Your program is not required to exactly match the way that DOE provides weatherization but we encourage you to create programs that reflect "the spirit of" the DOE programs.</p> <p>Many energy- and green-rating programs require energy reductions that meet or exceed the 15% energy reduction in this measure. For example, ENERGY STAR (ENERGY STAR-Qualified New Homes: <a href="http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_homes.nh_features">http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_homes.nh_features</a> and Home Performance with ENERGY STAR for existing homes: <a href="http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=hpwes_profiles.showSplash">http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=hpwes_profiles.showSplash</a>), LEED for Homes (<a href="http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=2135">http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=2135</a>), the NAHB National Green Building Program (<a href="http://www.nahbgreen.org">http://www.nahbgreen.org</a>) and other energy and green building programs' certifications provide measures for the level of efficiency that qualify towards the above 15% grouping.</p>

**Strategic Plan Objective 2: Improving Lands or Habitats**

<b>Measure EN6</b>	Number of tons of materials collected and recycled.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p>See the following link at the Environmental Protection Agency for helpful information on recycling: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/rrr/recycle.htm">http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/rrr/recycle.htm</a></p> <p><b>1 Ton</b> = 2,000 pounds.</p> <p><b>Collected:</b> Materials may be brought to your program or your program may collect them from places that would otherwise not benefit from free recycling programs.</p> <p><b>Recycled:</b> Your program may deliver them to a reputable recycling site or may recycle the materials directly; recycling includes a variety of techniques including composting, re-using, and take back programs in addition to programs typically called recycling.</p>
<b>How to Calculate/ Measure/ Collect Data</b>	<p>Count of tons of materials collected <b>AND</b> recycled; both steps must be performed to count. Use the EPA volume translator to add up the number of pounds of materials collected and recycled:</p> <p><a href="http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/tools/recmeas/docs/guide_b.pdf">http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/tools/recmeas/docs/guide_b.pdf</a>. Then perform the following calculation to get number of tons: # of pounds/2,000 = # of tons.</p> <p>EPA has suggested tracking methods at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/tools/recmeas/index.htm">http://www.epa.gov/waste/consERVE/tools/recmeas/index.htm</a></p>

**Strategic Plan Objective 3: Improving Awareness of Environmental Stewardship Issues**

<b>Measure EN2</b>	Number of low-income households home and public building energy audits conducted.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p><b>Home:</b> single family home, mobile home, apartment unit, each side of duplex would count as 1.</p> <p><b>Public building:</b> buildings owned by public entities and used to serve the public; might include public schools, local/state/national government buildings.</p> <p><b>Energy Audit:</b> See U.S. Dept. of Energy information for suggested definition <a href="http://www.waptac.org/">http://www.waptac.org/</a></p> <p><b>Low income:</b> 200% of poverty or the updated level as found at: <a href="http://www.waptac.org/">http://www.waptac.org/</a></p>
<b>How to Calculate Measure/Collect Data</b>	<p>U.S. Dept. of Energy provides some tracking tools at: <a href="http://www.waptac.org/Technical-Tools/Energy-Audits.aspx">http://www.waptac.org/Technical-Tools/Energy-Audits.aspx</a></p> <p>May create own tracking mechanism.</p>
<b>Other Notes</b>	<p>This may be the first step toward weatherization. It is an activity recommended by the DOE to determine what weatherization/energy improvement strategies would be best suited for each home/structure. Your program is not required to exactly match the way that DOE provides energy audits but we encourage you to create programs that reflect “the spirit of” the DOE programs.</p>

### ***Strategic Plan Objective 4: Formal Green Job Training***

<b>Measure EN3</b>	Number of individuals receiving education or training in energy-efficient and environmentally-conscious practices, including but not limited to sustainable energy and other natural resources, and sustainable agriculture.
<b>Definition of Key Terms</b>	<p><b>Education or Training:</b> May be one-time or an on-going series; cannot just be distribution of pamphlets or information available on a web-site; should have learning objectives; may be in person or through a web-based interface.</p> <p><b>Energy-efficient and environmentally conscious practices:</b> U.S. Dept. of Energy has some suggested materials at <a href="http://energizedlearning.lbl.gov/">http://energizedlearning.lbl.gov/</a></p>
<b>How to Calculate/ Measure/ Collect Data</b>	<p>Count of each individual participating in the training. Some individuals may attend multiple trainings but they should only be counted once. If providing the training through classroom training, count the individuals present not just those enrolled. If providing the training through a school assembly, get the best estimate from school officials of the number in attendance.</p> <p>Sign-in or attendance sheets from education/training sessions when possible. Tracking needs to enable unduplicated count when possible.</p>