



NIH Environmental Management System

Take Action to Protect the Future



NEMS NEWS

December 2008



“THE GREEN SPOTLIGHT”



Each month we will spotlight an employee who has been proactive greening the NIH.

Our spotlight this month is shining on John Crawford the Food Service Program Manager with the ORS Division of Amenities and Transportation Services. He is spearheading initiatives to green the cafeterias. One area that has received much attention at NIH is the use of Styrofoam in the cafeterias. Beginning December 1st Eurest will replace their Styrofoam cold cups with a single size 100% compostable cup! The new cup is a 20 ounce green ware cup. This is a huge contribution to the NIH main campus since about 4,600 drinks are consumed on a daily basis. John and his staff will continue to work to find suitable alternatives to their remaining styrofoam service items. Another future initiative that John is working on is a plan for the composting of kitchen waste or possibly investing in a food digester for the cafeterias.

For more information:

www.nems.nih.gov

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[gov](http://www.nih.gov)

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ENVIRONMENTAL TIPS

JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:

Green Greeting Cards

<http://green.yahoo.com/blog/greenpicks/57/got-your-green-card.html>

Green Shipping

http://green.yahoo.com/blog/the_conscious_consumer/18/greener-shipping-options.html

Recycling = \$\$?

<http://green.yahoo.com/blog/ecogeek/813/radio-shack-offers-cash-for-old-gear.html>

Green Gifts

<http://www.coopamerica.org/pubs/greengifts>





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NEMS NEWS

NIDDK PAPER REDUCTION PROJECT AT NIH

NIDDK has a Paper Reduction Project (PRP), initiated due to a suggestion provided by an NIDDK employee about reducing the number of routine periodical documents (NIH Record, R&W Newsletter, etc.) that are delivered to each employee. This suggestion led to an employee survey and the survey results led to the PRP. Here is a breakdown of the results and actions that are currently ongoing at NIDDK.

Based on survey results, and to achieve the ultimate goal of drastically reducing the distribution of hardcopy periodical documents, the following next steps will be employed by the NIDDK Green Team. These steps might be helpful for all NIH employees:

- Work with mailroom staff and develop an effective plan aimed at limiting the number of periodical documents being delivered to labs and offices and ultimately reducing the number of printed copies at the printing source.
- Identify key "common areas" where a limited number of periodical documents can be delivered, viewed and shared among employees;
- Research whether or not particular documents have automatic reminders that are sent via email whenever new editions are posted on the Internet (i.e., a subscriber list; and
- Create a directory on NIDDK Today (institute newsletter) that will be easily assessable and will highlight various periodical documents.

NEI GREEN TEAM NEWS

NEI is creating an Energy Conservation Desktop Policy. This policy will focus on steps that can be taken to reduce energy from IT equipment. NEI will be hosting a recycling seminar at Twinbrook and Fisher's lane on Dec. 10th and is working to set up a future info session on green procurement.

SUSTAINABLE LAB PRACTICES WORKING GROUP AND LABS GO GREENER CHALLENGE

These groups are working on a plan for reducing 6 priority chemicals at NIH as well as developing an overall survey of labs that can be used to rate the greenness of these areas.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Sustainable Labs Working Groups
Wed Dec 17; 1:30-2:30 Bldg 45, G1/G2

Go Greener Lab Challenge
Thurs Dec 4, 1-2, Bldg 31, 6C08
Thurs Dec 18, 1-2, Bldg 31, 6C08

NIDCD Green Team
Wed, Dec 3; 9-10; Bldg 31, 3C05

NEI Recycling Seminar
Wed, Dec 10; 2-3; Terrace Level Conf Room
rohloffn@nei.nih.gov for more info

