

## The National Institutes of Health's Environmental Management System (NEMS)

## Environmental Protection is Health Promotion

Our biomedical research increasingly confirms the significance of environmental factors on human health. *As the Environment Gets Healthier, So Do We.* Just as all NIH employees have a special role in protecting the health of the Nation, we should also be leaders in promoting a healthy environment. Whether we work directly in research or supporting research, we can all contribute to public health by conducting our activities in a manner that conserves resources and protects the environment.

The NIH Environmental Management System (NEMS) challenges all NIH employees and contractors to continually monitor and improve our environmental performance. We have to examine, and where necessary, modify the way we perform our daily work activities. Some changes are easy, such as turning off lights or recycling paper and aluminum cans; some changes might be harder such as changing procurement practices or incorporating greener procedures into laboratory work where feasible. All of these actions, large or small, will minimize NIH's environmental footprint and affirm our commitment to public health.

## Get Involved!

We need each person to review the activities that he or she conducts at NIH facilities and identify opportunities for improvement. Please be a part of this process by joining the NIH Sustainability Interest Group (SIG) and the other NEMS Working Groups. All members of our workforce are welcome to participate.

If you would like more information or to participate, please e-mail Green NIH (green@mail.nih.gov) or join our list serve at: https://list.nih.gov/archives/greenserve-l.html

## Our Future is in Your Hands. Act Now!



