

# EMS Spotlights



## NCCOS Environmental Policy

“NCCOS will comply with all applicable laws, regulations and other requirements to conduct its activities in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.”

- To promote proactive environmental stewardship and prevention of pollution,
- National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) will develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS). These Centers are committed to:
  - Identify, manage, and periodically review aspects of its activities, products, and services that can have significant impacts on the environment;
  - Employ source reduction and other pollution preventing approaches as practicable;
  - Consider environmental factors in planning, purchasing, and operating decisions;
  - Maintain a safe and healthy workplace;
  - Communicate the NCCOS Environmental Policy to all employees and those who work on its behalf, and make it available to the public;
  - Periodically sharing information on environmental performance with the public.
  - Monitor the NCCOS EMS environmental performance through regular rigorous evaluations.

You should be able to describe or summarize the content of the NCCOS EMS Policy

The EMS provides an efficient management structure to reinforce effective environmental performance evaluations, individual accountability, and commitment to continual improvement of environmental performance for the NCCOS environmental management system.

## Executive Order 13423

### Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management

The new Executive Order requires Federal agencies to lead by example in advancing the nation's energy security and environmental performance by achieving these goals:

- **VEHICLES:** Increase purchase of alternative fuel, hybrid, and plug-in hybrid vehicles when commercially available.
- **PETROLEUM CONSERVATION:** Reduce petroleum consumption in fleet vehicles by 2% annually through 2015.
- **ALTERNATIVE FUEL USE:** Increase alternative fuel consumption at least 10% annually.
- **ENERGY EFFICIENCY:** Reduce energy intensity 30% by 2015.
- **GREENHOUSE GASES:** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through reduction of energy intensity by 3% annually or 30% by 2105.
- **RENEWABLE POWER:** At least 50% of current renewable energy purchases must come from new renewable sources (in service after January 1, 1999).
- **BUILDING PERFORMANCE:** Construct or renovate buildings in accordance with sustainability strategies, including resource conservation, reduction, and use; siting; and indoor environmental quality.
- **WATER CONSERVATION:** Reduce water consumption intensity by 2% annually through 2015.
- **PROCUREMENT:** Expand purchases of environmentally-sound goods and services, including biobased products.
- **POLLUTION PREVENTION:** Reduce use of chemicals and toxic materials and purchase lower risk chemicals and toxic materials from top priority list.
- **ELECTRONICS MANAGEMENT:** Annually, 95% of electronic products purchased must meet Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool standards where applicable; enable Energy Star® features on 100% of computers and monitors; and reuse, donate, sell, or recycle 100% of electronic products using environmentally sound management practices.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS:** By 2010, increase to at least 2,500 the number of Federal operations that implement environmental management systems, up from about 1,000 today.

**Be aware of your role  
in EMS because you  
will directly impact its  
success**

The Executive Order consolidates and strengthens five executive orders and two memorandums of understanding and establishes new and updated goals, practices, and reporting requirements for environmental, energy, and transportation performance and accountability.