

EPA REGION 2 2004 PROGRESS REPORT







M E S S A G E F R O M T H E R E G I O N A L A D M I N I S T R A T O R

I am pleased to present the EPA Region 2 Progress Report. This report describes the national goals of EPA that help to preserve and protect our natural environment and the health of the people who live and work in our communities, and some of the many regional initiatives that respond to those goals.

The purview of EPA Region 2 consists of New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and seven Indian Nations. We are not the largest region in the nation in terms of geography, but we are certainly one of the most densely populated and among the most diverse. More than 31 million people reside in our region.

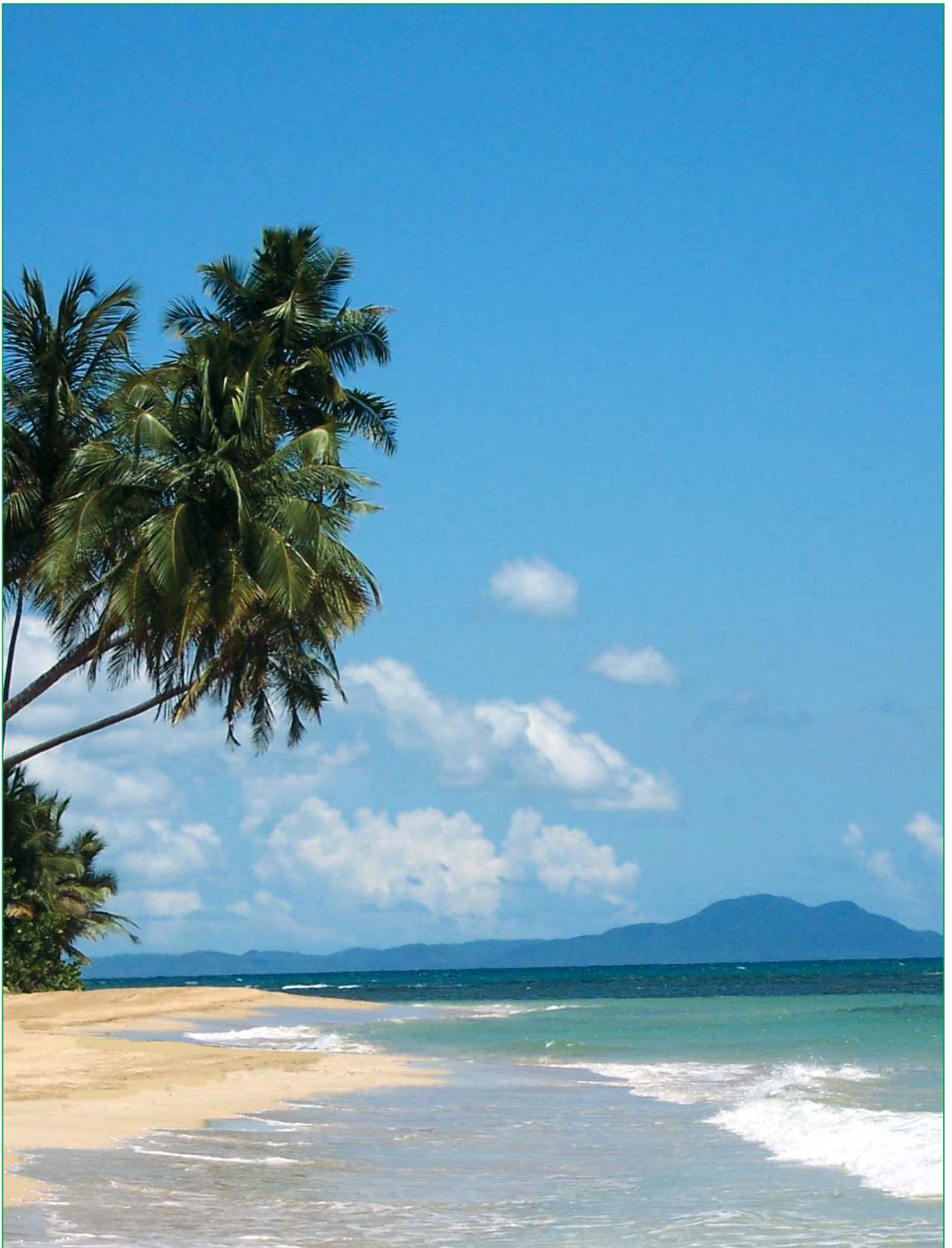
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was founded 35 years ago. Since that time, we have taken many important and lasting steps to protect and enhance the quality of the air, land and water around us. Today our air is cleaner, our land is better preserved and our water is safer to drink. We've come a long way in a relatively short period.

Despite the progress made, however, there is more to be done. In our region, we still have areas where there is undrinkable water, polluted air and tainted land. Together with our federal, state and local partners, we are working hard every day to improve the environment, people's health and the quality of their lives.

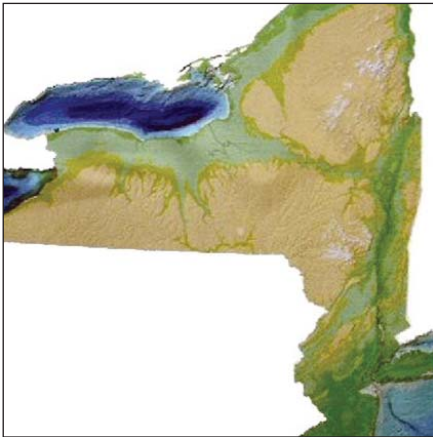
Environmental stewardship is everyone's responsibility. I invite you to review this report and find out about the work we are doing and how you might participate in the process of protecting our environment.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen C. Callahan".

Kathleen C. Callahan
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2



EPA Region 2 is comprised of New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and seven Indian Nations.



New York

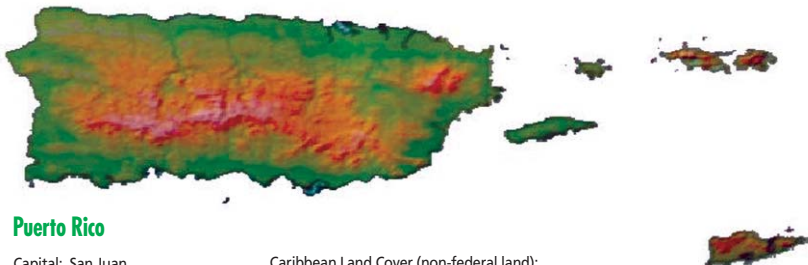
Capital: Albany
 Population: 18,976,457
 Population Distribution:
 Urban: 16,601,126
 Rural: 2,375,331
 Population Density:
 401.9 people per square mile
 Land Area: 47,214 sq. miles
 Miles of Ocean Coast: 127

Land Cover (non-federal land):
 Developed (urban & built-up): 3,183.6 (1,000 acres)
 Undeveloped (rural): 26,702.3 (1,000 acres)
 Developed land: 11%
 Cropland: 18%
 Pastureland: 9%
 Rangeland: 0%
 Forest Land: 59%
 Other Land: 3%

New Jersey

Capital: Trenton
 Population: 8,414,360
 Population Distribution:
 Urban: 7,939,087
 Rural: 475,263
 Population Density:
 1,134.4 people per square mile
 Land Area: 7,417 sq. miles
 Miles of Ocean Coast: 130

Land Cover (non-federal land):
 Developed (urban & built-up): 1,778.2 (1,000 acres)
 Undeveloped (rural): 2,765.6 (1,000 acres)
 Developed land: 39%
 Cropland: 13%
 Pastureland: 2%
 Rangeland: 0%
 Forest Land: 37%
 Other Land: 8%



Puerto Rico

Capital: San Juan
 Population: 3,808,610
 Population Distribution:
 Urban: 3,594,948
 Rural: 213,662
 Population Density:
 1,101.1 people per square mile
 Land Area: 3,459 sq. miles
 Miles of Ocean Coast: 311.3

Caribbean Land Cover (non-federal land):
 Developed (urban & built-up): 506.8 (1,000 acres)
 Undeveloped (rural): 1661.7 (1,000 acres)
 Developed land: 23%
 Cropland: 17%
 Pastureland: 20%
 Rangeland: 7%
 Forest Land: 30%
 Other Land: 3%

U.S. Virgin Islands

Capital: Charlotte Amalie
 Population: 108,612
 St. Croix: 53,234
 St. John: 4,197
 St. Thomas: 51,181
 Population Distribution:
 Urban: 100,497
 Rural: 8,115
 Population Density:
 804.5 people per square mile
 Land Area: 135sq. miles
 St. Croix: 83 sq. miles
 St. John: 20 sq. miles
 St. Thomas: 31 sq. miles
 Miles of Ocean Coast: 117

The region's 31.3 million residents are primarily concentrated in its urban areas. Close to 85% live in New York State (containing the largest and most densely populated city in the country) and New Jersey (the most densely populated state), mainly in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. In Puerto Rico, approximately one-third of the more than 3.5 million residents live in and around San Juan.

At the same time there are unique and largely intact ecosystems in our region such as the Pine Barrens, the Adirondacks Park (the largest publicly protected area in the mainland US), the Caribbean National Forest and the Virgin Islands National Park.

The seven federally-recognized Indian Nations, with whom we have a government-to-government relationship, are located within the boundaries of New York State. The estimated Tribal Nation population is approximately 25,000 with land holdings of approximately 106,000 acres. (These land holdings may increase dependent upon the outcome of several pending land claims.)

These ecosystems present diverse environmental management challenges.

EPA Region 2 works hard to assure clean air, pure water and better-protected land. Our efforts help ensure healthy communities and ecosystems, compliance with environmental regulations and environmental stewardship. These goals are more thoroughly discussed in the following pages, where we provide a snapshot of our current state as well as our strategies, tools and programs for meeting the nation's environmental agenda. As we look to the future, we expect to build more cross-program bridges to address environmental challenges, and to continue our active coordination with our states, territories, Indian Nations and communities in seeking solutions to environmental problems.

C L E A N A I R



AIR QUALITY

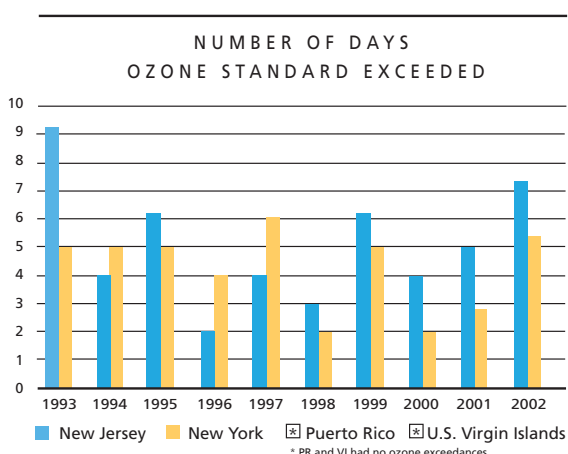
The quality of the air we breathe is affected by emissions from motor vehicles, manufacturing and electric generating plants, refineries, and other stationary and mobile sources. Thanks to regulations that have required the development and use of new pollution controls on most of these sources, the quality of our air has improved dramatically over the last few decades. Nevertheless, some areas of our region – particularly the most densely populated areas – still have unacceptable levels of air pollution.

Air pollution can cause breathing difficulties such as asthma, long-term damage to the respiratory, cardio-vascular and reproductive systems, cancer and even premature death. It can also damage crops, buildings, forests, lakes and streams.

Summertime Ozone

Ground level ozone, commonly called smog, is the most extensive and persistent air pollution problem in our region. Ozone, a harmful gas, is the product of a series of chemical reactions involving other pollutants – principally nitrogen oxides and organic chemicals – that take place in the presence of the summer sun. Ozone can be transported many hundreds of miles from the original emissions source.

Though levels have decreased over time, each summer we experience violations of both the one-hour and eight-hour national air quality standards for ozone over much of New York and New Jersey. As seen in the chart, the frequency of unhealthy peak concentrations of ozone in New Jersey and New York has decreased sharply since 1993. These reductions are attributable to the implementation of national control requirements, and to additional local emission control programs implemented by these two states and those upwind of Region 2. EPA works with both state governments and other public and private partners to control the many contributing sources of nitrogen oxide and organic chemicals.



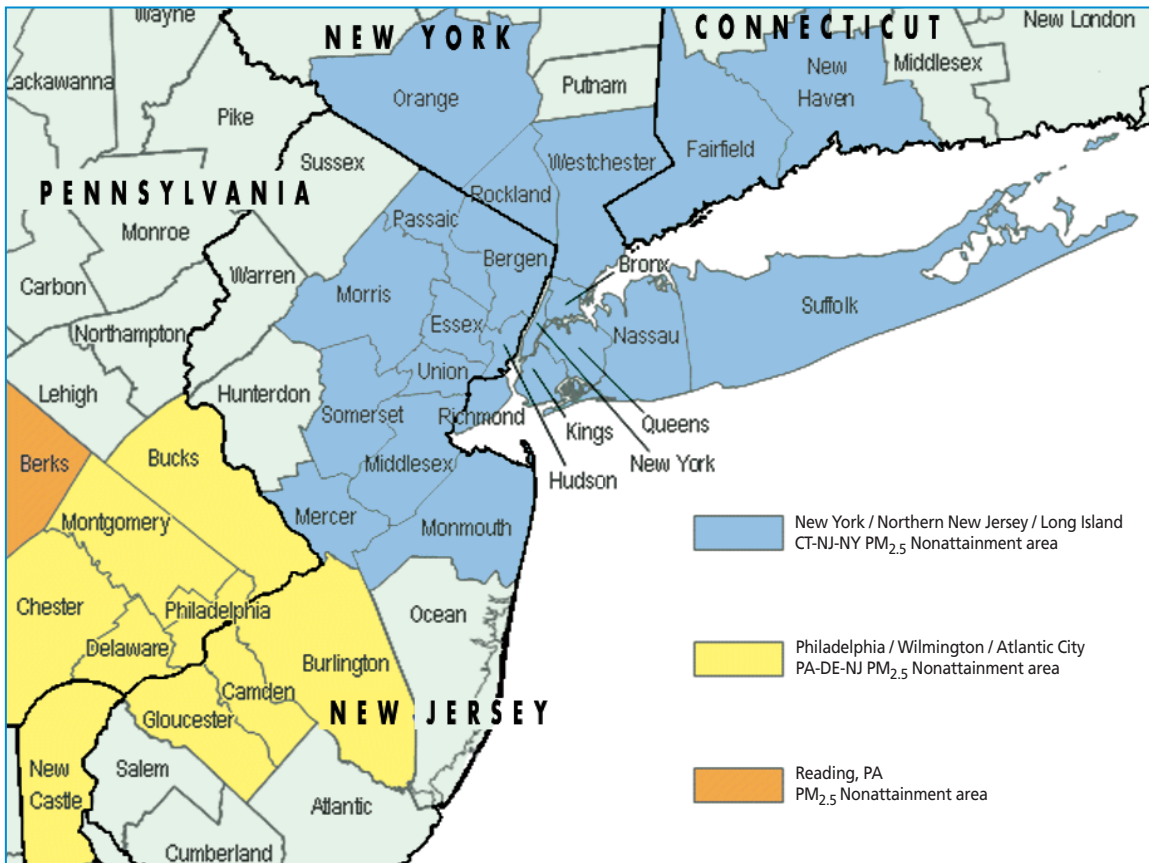
Because power plants are major emitters of nitrogen oxide, EPA and the states have focused special attention on these sources, initiating and enforcing a number of measures that help control their emissions. Summertime air conditioning, in particular, puts a heavy demand on power generation and exacerbates smog conditions. In addition, there are measures that require a reduction in the amounts of volatile organic compounds in various consumer and commercial products such as household cleaners, air fresheners, hair sprays, degreasing agents and insecticides. Paints, primers, stains and adhesives are also required to contain less of these ozone-forming materials.

Fine Particulates

Particulate matter, often referred to as soot, is the term used to describe air pollution that is comprised of solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air we breathe. Particles smaller than 2.5 micrometers in diameter – less than a thirtieth of the diameter of a human hair – are considered “fine” particles, and have been shown to have a particularly damaging effect on humans because they can lodge deeply in the lung.

In 2004, EPA identified several areas in New York and New Jersey as not meeting the Agency’s new health-based standard for fine particulate matter. As a result, emission control plans will have to be designed for these areas.

There is much work already underway to control diesel emissions, a major source of fine particulates in the atmosphere. EPA has recently issued new national rules that will dramatically reduce future emissions from diesel engines used in motor vehicles and in non-road equipment such as construction cranes, bulldozers and stationary generators. The Agency has also sponsored a number of voluntary emission reduction initiatives in cooperation with truck fleets, long-haul truckers, school bus fleets and sanitation departments, in a regional effort to reduce fine particle emissions.





CLEAN AIR HIGHLIGHT

Diesel engines are major producers of fine particle emissions, and many of these engines can be found in the school buses that transport our children to school. Children are more likely than their parents to be affected by air pollution because, in proportion to their body weight, they breathe more air. In Region 2 alone there are approximately nine million children, many of whom are school age.



EPA and its state and local partners have implemented the National Clean School Bus Program, a multi-faceted approach to reducing diesel emissions from school buses. By educating school and transportation officials about the importance of reducing emissions, and by aiding in funding pollution control retrofits, this program promises to make a school bus ride a safer trip.

In 2004, EPA awarded nearly \$700,000 to a dozen New York and New Jersey school districts to retrofit more than 400 school buses with pollution control technology and to encourage the implementation of idling reduction procedures. As a result of these efforts, over 67,000 schoolchildren will be riding cleaner buses.



C L E A N & S A F E W A T E R



WATER QUALITY

Two pieces of legislation in the early 1970's – the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act – have contributed mightily to the quality of the water we drink, fish and swim in today. Prior to enactment of these landmark laws, as much as two-thirds of the surface water in the United States was considered polluted. Today, that number has been reduced.

Water resources are central to the region's aesthetics, economics and health. There are some 60,000 miles of rivers and streams in Region 2, including waterways of major importance such as the Hudson and Passaic Rivers, the ports of San Juan and the New York/New Jersey Harbor, Lake Ontario, Niagara Falls and the St. Lawrence Seaway. New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have a combined 685 miles of ocean coastline, as well. Clean and safe water is essential to the health and livelihood of the region's 31 million residents.

Improving the Delaware Estuary

Estuaries are the places where freshwater from streams and rivers flows into the ocean, mixing with saltwater. A wide variety of birds, fish, vegetation and other wildlife inhabit and/or depend on estuaries. The protection of our estuaries and their ecosystems is vital to the health of our region's most important waterways. There are 28 EPA-sponsored national estuary programs in the country organized for that purpose.



In Region 2, the Delaware Estuary has been designated "impaired" because elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been found in fish tissues. As a result, one of the estuary's prime designated uses – fishing – is in jeopardy.

In order to address this impairment, regulatory tools known as "total maximum daily loads" (TMDLs) are being developed using a staged approach. TMDLs are calculations of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive daily and still meet water quality standards. The calculation includes all sources of PCBs to the estuary including nonpoint sources like overland runoff and runoff from contaminated sites, as well as regulated point sources like storm water, municipal wastewater treatment plants and industrial facilities. In addition, an Implementation Advisory Committee has been established to create an action plan for reducing PCBs. EPA has approved the Stage 1 TMDL for the Delaware Estuary. Additional data gathered during Stage 1 will enable a more refined analysis to be used as the basis of the next stage.

Lead in Drinking Water

Sixty-two percent of the region gets its drinking water from surface water sources such as lakes, reservoirs, rivers and rain catchments, with the remaining population served by groundwater. Approximately 3,800 community water systems provide drinking water to most Region 2 inhabitants.

Lead in drinking water can be a threat to a child's health, but fortunately it is one of the most preventable. To ensure that children are not exposed to lead from older pipes and solder, EPA works closely with school systems, where children spend a good portion of their day. In Region 2, the Agency has targeted school systems with the highest rates of childhood

lead poisoning – New York City, Syracuse and Rochester in New York State, and Newark and Paterson in New Jersey.

In Syracuse, 1,300 sinks and fountains were tested in 52 schools. High lead levels were found in 120 of these outlets and they were immediately shut off and only put back into service when filters were installed or older pipes replaced. Thousands of Syracuse schoolchildren are now drinking cleaner, safer water from school fountains and sinks. Similar actions and results took place in other high risk cities.





C L E A N W A T E R H I G H L I G H T

During the summer months, when millions of residents and tourists are attracted to our beaches, EPA monitors the water quality of the New York/New Jersey Harbor and the New Jersey and Long Island coastal ocean waters. From late May through early September, the EPA helicopter surveys inshore waters looking for “slicks” of floatable debris that could wash up on the beaches. This activity is part of an inter-agency “Floatables Action Plan” that has significantly reduced the amount of floating debris escaping the harbor and, therefore, reduced beach closures.

The helicopter is also used for sampling during the summer months at more than 120 ocean stations along the New Jersey and New York shores and back bays. Data collected is compared to water quality standards in coordination with other federal and state agencies to provide the beach-going public with water quality trends.

C L E A N D R I N K I N G W A T E R H I G H L I G H T

A grant of \$579,000 was awarded in 2004 to the Seneca Nation of Indians to improve its drinking water infrastructure. A variety of improvements will be made to the pump house and distribution systems of the Jimersontown and Steamburg Water Systems on Allegheny Territory. Together, the systems serve approximately 1,000 people. Both are owned and operated by the Seneca Nation and both systems have a groundwater supply.

The Seneca Nation also received \$198,000 to replace a ground level water storage tank at the Steamburg Water System. Funding was provided through an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service.



PRESERVE & RESTORE LAND



PRESERVE AND RESTORE LAND

Preserving and restoring land is one of EPA's most important goals. After all, unchecked waste, hazardous or otherwise, can taint ground and surface water, as well as the air. Region 2 efforts in preserving and restoring land are focused primarily on reducing waste generation, promoting recycling, preventing spills and releases of toxic materials, and cleaning up contaminated land and facilities. We are working on a portfolio of projects addressing a number of specific waste products including lead, electronics, hospital wastes, mercury, and construction and demolition debris.

PRESERVING LAND



Recycling Initiatives

Harvesting and reusing construction and demolition debris is an important recycling activity. Region 2 awarded a solid waste demonstration grant of \$28,500 to the Industrial and Technology Assistance Corporation for the preparation of a "Building Reuse Calculator" and materials aimed at informing architects, developers, contractors, demolition businesses, governments and manufacturers about the real cost and potential savings when using these materials in construction projects.

We were also one of the first institutions in the nation to recognize the importance of dealing with the growing problem of cell phone disposal. Region 2 awarded an initial

\$25,000 grant to INFORM, Inc., an independent non-profit research organization, to assess and describe the magnitude of the problem. One result of that initial effort was the finding that there are as many as 100 million phones retired every year and many millions more obsolete and/or unused in drawers, closets and glove compartments. EPA gave INFORM a second grant of \$48,000 to publicize the findings of its research and to conduct a roundtable meeting for stakeholders. Emphasizing our own concern, we conducted an in-house cell phone collection drive that netted 55 pounds of unused phones and associated equipment that were subsequently shipped to a non-profit organization to be refurbished or recycled.

RESTORING LAND

Emergency Response

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (Superfund) gives EPA and its partners the legal authority to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites, with the ultimate goal of returning the land to productive use. In 2004, Love Canal, one of the most well-known Superfund sites in the nation, was finally removed from the National Priorities List (NPL) with its cleanup complete. Considerable progress was made on other Region 2 sites, as well. Among them, final locations for sediment processing and transfer facilities were determined for the Hudson River cleanup, and sampling of the Passaic River was begun to define flow, salinity and temperature change with the tides. The Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Area on Vieques in Puerto Rico was also recently added to the NPL.

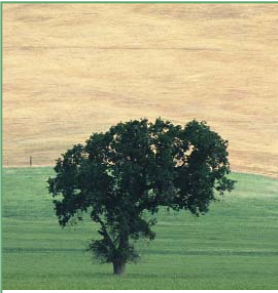
The Lawrence Aviation Industries, Inc. site on Long Island, is an example of a Superfund site that required an immediate removal action, in addition to a longer-term cleanup plan.

Lawrence is an active manufacturing facility that produces titanium sheeting for the aeronautics industry. Trichloroethylene, a potentially human carcinogenic solvent used in its manufacturing process, was found to have leaked into the soil and area groundwater. The 160-acre site, with 200,000 square feet of building space also had more than 1,000 deteriorating metal drums, some leaking liquids, stacked four feet high in various locations throughout the property. Many of the drums were labeled "70% hydrofluoric acid," a strong and dangerous acid. There were 12 open vats of acids,

hundreds of different laboratory chemicals, open tanks of fuming acids and other hazardous substances. The dangers to the community and the surrounding area were evident.

EPA initiated an emergency action to stabilize the site, separating incompatible chemicals and securing them in sound containers. With the immediate risk alleviated, negotiations are underway to remove the remaining chemical containers prior to initiating the longer-term remedial actions.



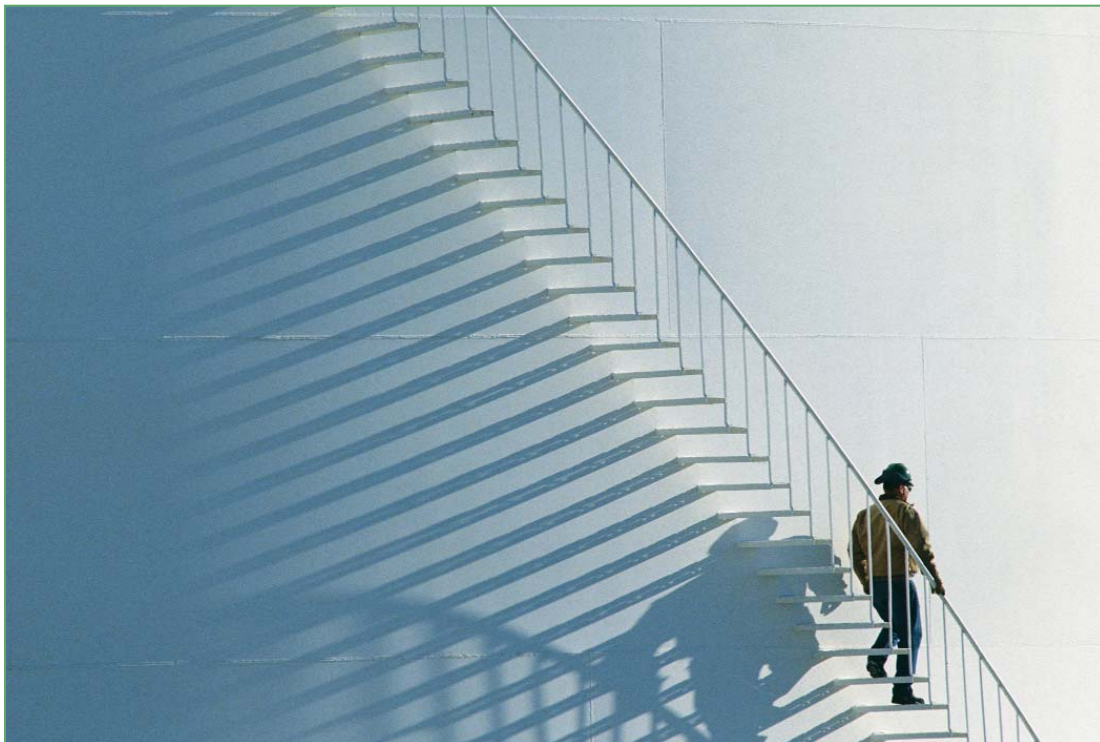


PRESERVE AND RESTORE LAND HIGHLIGHT

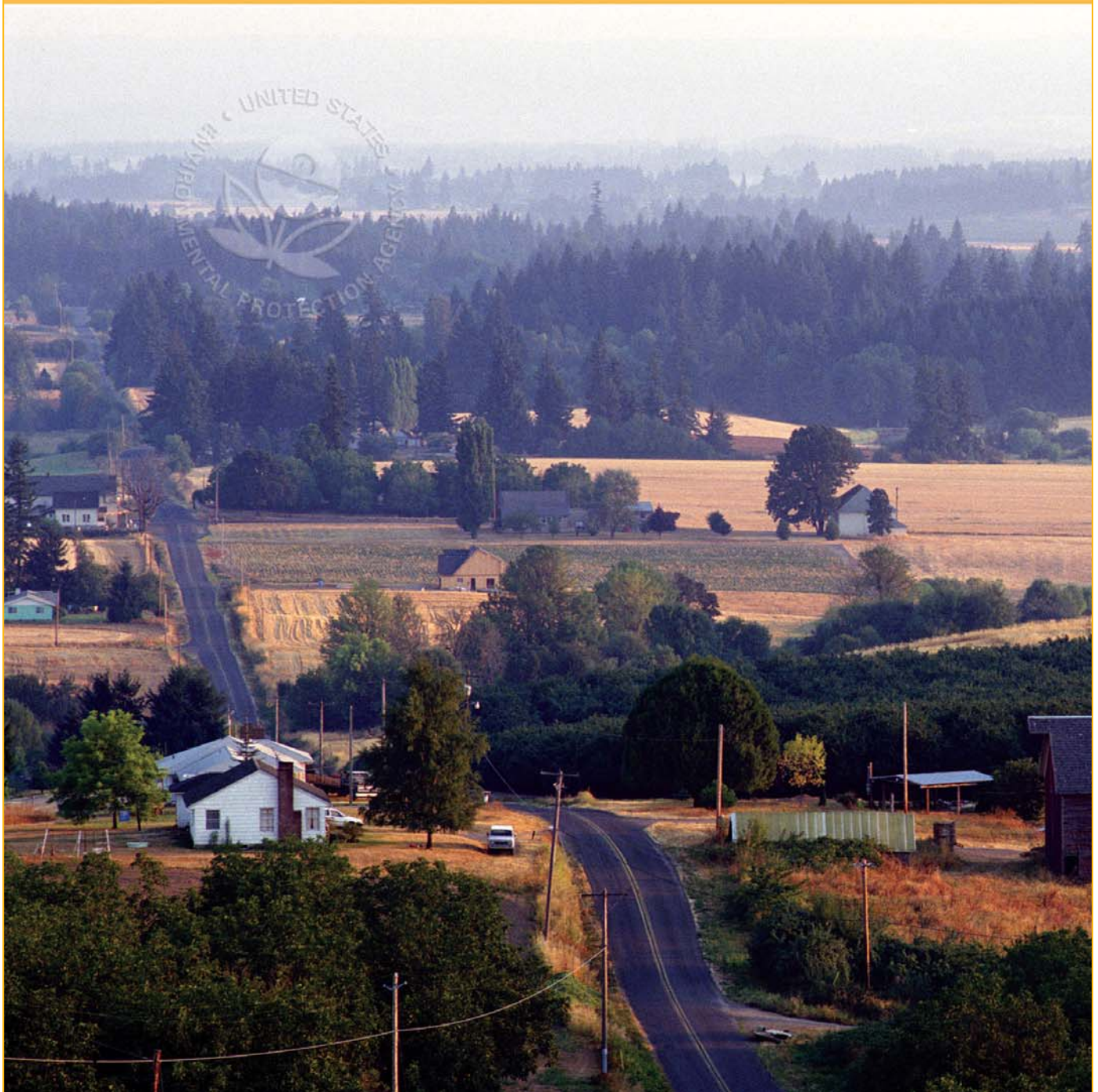


Region 2 has been an active participant in the National Program for Environmental Priorities (NPEP). Through NPEP, public and private organizations form voluntary partnerships with EPA to reduce the use or release of any of 31 priority toxic chemicals. These chemicals are harmful to human health and the environment. In Region 2, 83% of the priority chemical releases reported were from lead and lead compounds. Naphthalene represented 11% of the toxins released.

In 2004, the region enrolled a number of companies in the program, including Old Bridge Chemicals and Madison Industries of New Jersey. Combined, these companies have committed to reduce more than 1.8 million pounds of lead compounds reported to the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI), a publicly-available EPA database that contains information on toxic chemical releases by industry groups and federal facilities. In Puerto Rico, several companies joined NPEP, including Smart Modular Technologies of Aguada and Solectron of Aquadilla. Combined, they plan to eliminate 4,370 pounds of lead from their soldering processes. Each is a supplier to the electronics industry.



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
& ECOSYSTEMS



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES & ECOSYSTEMS

Ensuring the protection of people's health and the environment is the mission of EPA. Managing environmental risks is the key component of this goal and the means through which EPA can undertake its mission.

Working with partner institutions, community leaders and individuals, we direct our energies to those most vulnerable – our children and elderly. And, in doing so, we bring to bear all of our scientific capabilities to better understanding the threats to their health and in finding safe ways in which to eliminate them.



Rochester Initiative

The Rochester Community Environmental Project, conducted in Rochester, New York, is an initiative that incorporates a mix of regulatory and voluntary programs to improve public health and the environment. In a sense, it is a citywide approach to bringing institutions and facilities into compliance, educating professionals and the public as to good environmental practice and establishing the foundation of a sustainable environment.

In rapid fire fashion, EPA conducted more than 200 inspections at 166 regulated facilities; crafted a healthcare workshop to assist hospital officials in identifying and managing hazardous waste; persuaded 14 area hospitals to voluntarily identify, self-disclose and correct violations at their facilities; partnered with 12 facilities to eliminate or reduce industrial waste; formed a collaborative partnership with community

groups, academe, businesses, governments, health and environmental groups and school districts to identify and prioritize environmental issues; sampled and analyzed drinking water taps at all 42 elementary schools in the Rochester City School District resulting in closing and remediating 80 taps; and removed "legacy" chemicals from school laboratories and storage facilities.

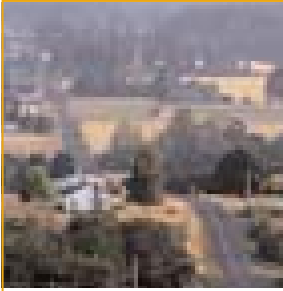
What were the immediate results of that action? Over 700 gallons of chemicals were removed from the schools and disposed of at a hazardous waste facility; 53 facilities in violation have been brought into compliance; one company is partnering with EPA to significantly reduce its lead emissions; and, non-compliant facilities are being brought into compliance providing greater health and environmental protection.

Illegal Pesticide Sweeps

In 2004, EPA used its enforcement authority to protect the people of Puerto Rico from illegal pesticides. The Agency inspected more than 90 large and mid-sized stores, farmer's markets and flea markets throughout the island for illegal pesticides. The sweep produced more than 650 packets of the illegal pesticide "Tres Pasitos," or "three small steps" – the distance a pest can walk before succumbing to the deadly poison. More than 3,000 boxes of "Chinese Chalk," another unlicensed pesticide were confiscated as well. This poison is so-named because it resembles play chalk that a child would use on the sidewalk or chalkboard.

Similar sweeps were conducted in New York City. EPA inspected 48 large and mid-sized stores throughout the city and found 44 different types of illegal pesticides at 27 locations. Inspectors also located three distribution centers with large quantities of illegal products in Queens. EPA teamed up with Chinese-American neighborhood groups in an awareness campaign that reached out to the Chinese-American press to inform this segment of the population about the dangers of illegal pesticides.





HEALTHY COMMUNITIES & ECOSYSTEMS HIGHLIGHT



In early 2004, Region 2 reached an administrative settlement agreement with the Puerto Rico Department of Education (PRDOE), which imposed a \$5.6 million penalty against the PRDOE for violations of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The settlement required PRDOE to invest the penalty amount in a three-year program to remediate asbestos hazards in its 1,500 schools.

The PRDOE case underscores the Region 2 commitment to children's health. EPA has uncovered a number of widespread AHERA violations in several school districts on the mainland including Newark, New Jersey and Yonkers, New York, through its "smart inspection" approach. Using this approach, a sampling of schools within the larger Local Educational Agencies, private schools and charter schools are inspected and settlements are pursued to ensure that all schools within the respective systems are brought into compliance.



COMPLIANCE &
ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP



COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Region 2 maintains a strong enforcement and compliance program, one that identifies and reduces noncompliance; assists the regulated community in understanding environmental laws and regulations; responds to complaints from the public; strives to secure a level economic playing field for law-abiding companies; deters future violations; and promotes environmental stewardship to achieve its goal. A sustainable environment – one that is in constant balance with economic and quality of life standards, without compromising environmental care and concern – is the ultimate goal of compliance and stewardship.

COMPLIANCE

Health Care and University Initiative

There are approximately 500 hospitals in Region 2, all of which perform an invaluable service to the public. They also, however, cause a major environmental and public health concern.

Hospitals contribute to the presence of mercury, dioxin, and other persistent bioaccumulative toxics (PBTs) in the environment. They also generate considerable hazardous wastes such as chemotherapy and antineoplastic chemicals, solvents, formaldehyde, photographic chemicals,

radionuclides and waste anesthetic gases. Medical facilities also exacerbate air pollution problems including smog, climate change, the depletion of the ozone layer and air toxics.

Colleges and universities can have a similar impact on their environment. In many cases, we have found that these institutions are not aware of their responsibilities under various environmental laws. In some cases, this lack of awareness put their staff and students at risk. Many of these facilities are the size of a small town or village with multiple services including power plants, housing, storage tanks, incinerators, laboratories and cleaning facilities.

During the past year, 63 healthcare facilities and 26 colleges and universities voluntarily disclosed and corrected approximately 3,000 violations. In the healthcare sector, more than 120,000 staff and approximately 1,000,000 annual patients benefited from these corrective actions. For colleges and universities, more than 60,000 students are now better protected from environmental hazards and more than 120,000 pounds per year of hazardous waste and approximately 1.5 million gallons of oil are being managed properly due to self-disclosure and corrected management measures.



STEWARDSHIP

Performance Track

EPA has achieved success through a voluntary national program entitled Performance Track that recognizes and rewards businesses that demonstrate good environmental performance above and beyond requirements. To date, more than 350 companies nationwide have received this level of recognition.

In Region 2, there are 45 Performance Track companies, including Johnson & Johnson, BASF, Pfizer, IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Lockheed Martin and Baxter Caribe. More than just a one-time initiative, Performance Track membership is only open to companies that make an ongoing, annual commitment to sound environmental practice.

Across the nation, Performance Track companies have reduced emissions of greenhouse gases by more than 40,000 tons, the equivalent of planting more than 11,000 acres of trees. They have reduced solid waste by about 176,000 tons, and have saved enough energy to power more than 30,000 homes for a year. Regionally, Performance Track members reduced their use of energy by more than 2.7 metric British Thermal Units, reduced water use by more than 300 million gallons and lowered the generation of hazardous wastes by more than nine million pounds.





COMPLIANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP HIGHLIGHT



In the aggregate, a total of 2,860 facility or site inspections were completed during 2004. The resultant enforcement actions and associated environmentally beneficial projects produced the reduction and treatment of over 157 million pounds of pollutants; the cleanup of 12,700 cubic yards of contaminated soil; and, the cleanup of nearly three million yards of contaminated water. In addition, three million people have begun to receive cleaner drinking water as a result of Region 2 enforcement actions.

Visitors to and residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands are the beneficiaries of an enforcement action that has resulted in tangible and significant upgrades to wastewater infrastructure. The improvements have been many, including the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant in New Cruz Bay and total refurbishment of the George Simmonds, the Anguilla and the Charlotte Amalie plants.

Other related efforts include the upgrade of all major and minor wastewater pump stations in the territory's sewage system; construction of the Mangrove Lagoon Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant, which was put into operation in late 2002; and, the complete assessment of the collection and transport segments of the sewage system in St. Croix.





TO PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is to protect human health and the environment. As part of that mission, we have an obligation to keep the public apprised of the work we do and to educate the public as to the best environmental practices. Much of the information contained in this Progress Report can be found on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Web site – www.epa.gov – or on the EPA Region 2 Web site – www.epa.gov/region2.

Here are some other valuable and informative Web pages:

New Jersey: www.epa.gov/region2/state/njlink.htm

New York: www.epa.gov/region2/state/nylink.htm

Puerto Rico: www.epa.gov/region2/cepd/prlink.htm

U.S. Virgin Islands: www.epa.gov/region2/cepd/vilink.htm

Tribal Nations: www.epa.gov/region2/nations

For More Information Contact:

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