



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



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Earth Day 2011: Partnering for a Greener Future

"Since [Secretary Mabus](#) challenged us with five aggressive energy goals, I have already seen a cultural shift. People are thinking about how to make more energy efficient choices on a day-to-day basis. Energy security is so important for our country; we're going to have to keep building on this momentum with programs and policies that get excitement and commitment from all levels."

– **Jackalynne Pfannenstiel, assistant secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment)**

The Navy and nation will celebrate [Earth Day April 22](#). The Department of the Navy is committed to improving collaborative efforts with other government agencies, industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on environmental and energy projects. These partnerships are vital for ensuring long-term sustainability and national security. More than 45 naval commands around the world are hosting events that highlight environmental cleanup, planting / beautification and recycling in support of Earth Day 2011.

Partnerships at the Federal, State and Local Levels

- The Navy works closely with the National Marine Fisheries Service on environmental planning to train forces effectively while protecting the environment.
- In August 2010, [Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus](#) and Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley co-hosted an event that focused on ways the Department of Defense could work with the state of Maryland to improve cleanup efforts in the Chesapeake Bay. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson also participated.
- These partnerships serve as models for interaction with other agencies and allow organizations to focus their available assets to accomplish the shared goal of improved environmental stewardship.

Partnering with Industry and NGOs

- After the Navy Environmental Leadership Forum the Navy initiated a series of two-way roundtable discussions with NGOs, the first, held in January 2011, focused on energy security, conservation, and alternative fuels.
- The Navy works with industry to promote the use of alternative fuels to help protect the Navy from a volatile fuel supply, thereby providing an off-ramp from petroleum.

Achieving 'Energy Smart' Improvements

- This past year three new destroyers were outfitted with fuel-saving stern flaps, [fuel-efficient hull coatings](#) were evaluated on both USS Cole (DDG 67) and USS Port Royal (CG 73), and a highly efficient automated combustion trim system was implemented aboard USS Peleliu (LHA 5).
- The Navy has successfully tested biofuel/petroleum blend fuels on an [F/A-18 Hornet](#), an MH-60S helicopter, a [riverine command boat](#) and a gas turbine engine used to generate electricity aboard sea combatants.
- Installations continue to integrate "smart metering" technology in facilities, incorporate [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards](#) and pursue other green initiatives.

Key Messages

- Continued leadership support for educating all levels of the Department of the Navy is integral to promoting the culture change needed to fully appreciate energy as a strategic resource and an enabler of combat capability.
- Environmental stewardship and promoting energy security through conservation and alternative fuels are critical for our environment, our Navy and our nation.
- The Navy is committed to energy security, energy efficiency and environmental stewardship as means to conserve natural resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lessen dependence on fossil fuels.

Facts & Figures

- The Navy is on track to sail the '[Great Green Fleet](#)' by 2016 -- composed of nuclear ships, surface combatants and aircraft operating on a 50/50 blend of biofuel and petroleum.
- Department of Navy commands reported plans to participate in more than 70 Earth Day events in 2011. For more information on these events, visit the Earth Day Network website at www.earthday.org.
- For more on the Navy's commitment to Earth Day, watch SECNAV's [YouTube video](#).