

Going Green



RECOGNITION

- 2014 #1 in Sustainability for all Hilton Hotels in the U.S.
- 2014 City of San Diego: Director's Recycling Award
- 2014 Green Business Network Member; Port of San Diego
- 2013 TripAdvisor Green Leader: Silver Level
- 2013 City of San Diego: Director's Recycling Award
- 2013 Lodging Energy Efficiency Program Award
- 2012 City of San Diego: Recycler of the Year
- 2011 Chairman's Award in Sustainability: Port of San Diego & Semptra
- 2011 City of San Diego: Environmental Partner
- 2010 Green Key Program: Highest Rating of 5 Green Keys
- 2010 California Green Lodging Award – Leadership Level

ENERGY USE

- We have a current Energy Star score of 49.
- The hotel has been vetting multiple on-site renewable energy sources since its opening in 2008.
- Local utility SDGE is currently providing 20.8% of electricity produced by offsite renewable energy.
- The hotel is targeting to become LEED registered for EB.
- Completed a comprehensive lighting retrofit program, reducing power as much as 92% in many areas.
- The hotel has upgraded our Building Automation system which will improve system programming to implement tighter controls of energy usage and while improving occupant comfort. This project will save enough electricity to power 108 typical homes and enough natural gas for 224 typical homes for a year.
- We have replaced existing conventional light switches to switches that have built-in occupancy sensors and a built-in LED night light in guest bathrooms. Sensors turn lights on when they detect occupancy and turn the lights off when no one is in the room. This project will save enough electricity to power 10 typical homes a year.
- We have also replaced our existing thermostats in guest rooms with thermostats that have a built-in occupancy sensor. When the room is vacant for extended periods of time, this control will adjust the room temperature setting to save energy while no one is in the room. When guests return to the room, the sensor will detect occupancy and return the temperature setting to the guest's preference. This initiative will conserve enough electricity to power 142 typical homes and enough natural gas for 9 typical homes for a year.
- We utilize a sustainability program to accurately measure and report on the hotel's energy consumption to allow us identify areas for improvement, this Lightstay tool can also be used to measure energy consumption of a particular event in the hotel and can provide a detailed report to our clients.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING

Hotel cleaning products adhere to the following designated by GS-33:

- Hotel uses automatic dishwashing detergent that is biodegradable, does not contain NTA (nitrilotriacetic acid) and does not contain chlorine bleach.
- Hotel demonstrates that chlorinated chemicals are used only where there is no less toxic alternative and only in minimal amounts.
- Hotel uses non-phosphate, nontoxic, biodegradable, concentrated liquid or powder cleaning products.
- Hotel seeks to replace hazardous substances with less hazardous alternatives (e.g., cleaning supplies, detergents, adhesives, paints, pesticides, etc).
- Purchases of products with VOC off-gassing potential are evaluated and lower VOC products are purchased where available.
- General Purpose Cleaning Products contain less than 10% VOCs by weight.
- Bathroom papers contain a prescribed percentage of post consumer recycled content.
- Locally grown and organic options are offered for events.

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING

- The hotel has a sustainable purchasing policy that covers all product purchases that are within the building and site management's control, including but not limited to, ongoing consumables (such as paper goods, office and meeting supplies and guest room amenities), furniture, electronics, batteries, food, beverages and building materials. Additionally, approved eco – friendly, biodegradable laundry, dishwashing detergents and low VOC paints are used. The hotel uses environmentally responsible suppliers for all purchases.
- Locally grown organic options are offered in the restaurants and bars using a 'farm to fork' approach.

WATER EFFICIENCY

- The hotel has permanently installed water meters that provide monthly data on total water use for the entire building and associated grounds. Consumption is tracked through LightStay.
- Water closets are currently at 1.6 gallons per flush.
- Urinals are currently at 1 gallon per flush.
- Showerheads are currently at 2.5 gallons per minute.
- Public lavatory, faucets and aerators are currently at 1.5 gallons per minute.
- Private lavatory, faucets and aerators are currently at 2.2 gallons per minute.

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- Metering faucets use 0.25 gpm/cycle.
- Hotel implements a towel and sheet reuse program which is conveyed to guests through in-room collateral.
- Recently, we have installed a Water Reclamation System in our Laundry Department. This system reclaims 70% of the water from the laundry and filters it for re-use for additional wash loads. The water is filtered and treated for re-use while fully maintaining cleaning standards. In addition, this system reduces the amount of energy used to heat the water by 50%. This saves a valuable water resource, reduces the load imposed on the municipal sewer system and also recovers heating energy from the water. This project will save enough water to provide electricity for 58 typical homes and enough natural gas for 36 homes for a year.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- As of December 2012, the hotel's diversion rate is consistently in the 60 – 65% range. A goal of 75% is targeted for 2014.
- The hotel has a solid waste management policy in place that facilitates ongoing waste reduction; encourages high levels of both staff and guest participation in waste diversion efforts; provides staff training on recycling, composting, donating and reusing waste; covers all the building waste streams, including recycling, composting, donating or reuse of food waste, grease, paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, metals, batteries, mercury containing lamps, building materials and electronic equipment. Training has been provided for all team members. Guests are instructed to recycle through collateral and strategic placement of recycling receptacles throughout public space.
- The hotel has recently successfully negotiated an addendum to its collective bargaining agreement which added a guestroom recycling program for guests and room attendants at no additional costs.
- Housekeeping staff does not replace consumable amenities daily unless they are empty. Leftover amenity bottles are donated to a local charity.
- The hotel primarily uses glass or china.
- NO polystyrene (#6 plastic) is used in any venue in the hotel.
- Cloth napkins are used and paper napkins are required to consist of a prescribed percentage of post consumer material.
- Leftover food is offered to team members and also donated to a local food shelter.
- Hotel participates in a food waste composting program in conjunction with the City of San Diego and the Miramar Greenery.

CLIENT BENEFITS

- Our Light Stay Program allows us to provide our clients an accurate report of performance across multiple operational practices. The Lightstay software effectively allows the measurement, identification and operational implementation of sustainability initiatives which, in turn, allows benchmarking/quantification of data and the impact of sustainable operations at the property level.
- The report can be customized to a group event allowing our clients to track their event's environmental impact, then allowing the hotel to work with each event to reduce the energy and resources used.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The hotel has a formal furniture repair policy, any damaged furniture from guest rooms or public spaces is brought to carpentry for repair, once fixed it is reused in the hotel or donated to relevant charities.
- All of the Hotel's printers and copiers are defaulted to double sided printing to reduce the quantity of paper used in each department.
- Unused escalator banks are de-energized nightly to reduce power usage.
- Back of house areas are monitored nightly for usage and power turned off accordingly to reduce electricity consumption in the hotel.



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