



Green Initiatives

We are committed to our guests, our team members, our hotel and most importantly to our environment by ensuring our carbon footprint is substantially reduced through our sustainable business practices.

What we are doing now throughout the hotel:

- Designated Think Green Team of team members from various departments to monitor current practices and implement further green initiatives.
- Our trash is separated and used as its product break down i.e. glass, plastic, food waste (biodegradable), cardboard
- Our grease trap is reclaimed and the grease is used in bio-diesel fuel
- We participate in PG&E energy reduction resources
- All our new equipment purchases are eco friendly and energy use efficient. Over \$1,000,000 in equipment in the last three years, i.e. kitchen, HVAC, computer items
- Our new standard practice for remodels or renovations is to purchase / use eco-friendly material if possible
- In-house we use a computerized management system to control HVAC usage
- We are a beta site for PG&E testing, i.e. lighting, motors, natural gas powered equipment and other items. At this time we are testing several electrical items for PG&E
- We are using products determined by corporate standards and vendors to be eco-friendly, i.e. cleaners, grease, solvents, any number of daily used sanitary products
- Don't touch my towel, please – Encouraging guests to participate actively in our EarthCare program. A 100-guestroom hotel can save an estimated 72,000 gallons of water a year through the linen and towel reuse program
- Administratively, we have reduced the amount of paper consumption by replacing brochures, collateral, correspondence with e-mail, e-proposals e-brochures, etc
- Our files are reduced by keeping electronic archived files. When printing, we print on both sides of the paper
- Turn all lights, electrical equipment, computers, printers, etc. off when not in use (not standby mode)

How we are making meetings and events more green:

- Scheduled HVAC usage (Does not get turned on in meeting space more than 3 hours prior to event and is turned off no later than 1 hour following event).
- Note Pads and Pens – Placed on request
- Note Pads have been reduced in size from 5" x 7" to 3" x 4"
- Pens and unused Note Pads are recycled
- Water Stations offered for setups vs. Water Service on each table
- Cloth linens/napkins and glassware vs. paper/plastic – washable and reusable
- Lighting – Lights are turned on 1 hour prior to event and turned off when room has been vacated (no lights left on all day)
- Unoccupied meeting space is monitored to ensure no energy is wasted on Lights or HVAC

- Food preparation – Kitchen now waits until Banquets instructs them to “fire” 3%-5% overflow anticipated meals on a needed basis, vs. having the food pre-prepared. Saves on food costs and waste.
- Clients have option prior to function to donate unused/over-ordered guaranteed meals to local charitable organizations. Provided that the local charitable organization can meet health standards as indicated on hotel’s waiver form.
- Use Plastic Reusable Reserved Table Signs for Banquet functions vs. last year printing reserved signs for each function.
- Recycling receptacles are available for those meeting planners who request to see separate bins in meetings/events.
- Incorporate local produce in banquet table settings vs. buying new floral centerpieces or arrangements daily.

Water Saving Installations

WeatherTrak Water Management

Research has shown that landscapes are over watered by 30-300%. To avoid this problem we have installed the WeatherTrak Smart Water Management solution. The system monitors weather trends in our specific area such as humidity, cloud cover, rain and wind. It then electronically alters our water control system here on property via data line. The system has been proven to save four times more water than traditional conservation practices.

Efficiency Toilet Installation Program

DoubleTree by Hilton San Jose was one of the first businesses to partner with Santa Clara Valley Water District on their new water saving toilet installation program.

The Commercial High-Efficiency Toilet Installation Program replaced all 505 guest rooms' old water-guzzling toilets in mid October. The new toilets use 1.28 gallons per flush (gpf) compared to the old 3.5 gpf toilets. We have approximated that the program will save more than 10,800 gallons per day which comes out to 4,000,000 gallons per year. This is nearly equal to six Olympic-sized swimming pools! We expect this to reduce our water usage costs by about forty percent.

Partnerships:

- Arbor Day Foundation – DoubleTree by Hilton has partnered with ADF to support our Teaching Kids to CARE Program - We involve youth from local schools in environmental awareness education and activities
- DoubleTree by Hilton is partnered with World Wildlife Fund
- Our hotel is a proud member of the California Green Lodging Program
- Our hotel is a proud member of the Green Meeting Industry Council