



Sheraton Seattle Hotel– A Leader in Green

Recycling and Composting

The Sheraton Seattle was one of the first hotels to introduce a voluntary recycling program back in 1993. Each department contains designated receptacles to collect recycled goods. We also offer in-room recycling in all of our guest rooms. Examples of recycled materials include: paper, plastic, cardboard, glass, aluminum, fluorescent light bulbs, toner cartridge, oil, batteries and pallets. Furthermore, we recycle or liquidate carpet, electronics, and furniture during renovations. Each month the Sheraton family diverts nearly 7 tons of compost, as well. Composting bins are located in our employee cafeteria, culinary, banquet and room service departments, and in the Daily Grill restaurant.

Associates Promoting and Practicing Green Efforts

Sheraton Seattle's "Green Team" is a cross-departmental group that promotes and advocates new green practices in the hotel. The team has posted signage throughout the hotel that includes visual images to educate associates on how to be "green" at work and at home. We encourage employees to choose eco-friendly modes of transportation by offering discounted Seattle Metro passes. The "Green Team" has transformed the employee cafeteria into a nearly 100% compostable environment. The cafeteria no longer distributes individually packaged items or disposable service ware. Compost bins are utilized for leftover food and used napkins. The Sheraton Seattle family actively supports and contributes to Green service events in the community such as *The Sweep*, a cleanup of Lake Union and the waterways, T-Mobile's Handset Recycling Program, and *Earth Hour 2009*.

Giving Guests the Option to Go Green: "Make a Green Choice" Program

Like many hotels, each Sheraton guest room has an opt-in linen and towel replacement program that reduces the amount of chlorine, detergents, and water used in the cleaning process. But Sheraton guests are also presented with an additional option: They may choose to decline housekeeping service – and the cleaning chemicals and energy involved in the process - by hanging a "Make a Green Choice" card on the outside of their guest room door before 2am. In return for going green, guests receive a \$5.00 gift card or 500 SPG points for each day they participate. The gift card can be used for In-Room-Dining, at the *In Short Order* coffee bar, the *Daily Grill Restaurant* or the *Lobby Lounge Bar*.

Turning Out the Lights!

Our entire hotel is outfitted with compact florescent bulbs. In addition, our meeting rooms feature motion censored lights. With over 75,000 square feet of meeting space, this results in significant energy savings. Energy is conserved in guest rooms through daily light and air conditioning inspections. Employee offices are kept dark overnight, and security lights are on timers. The hotel also features a Building Automation System that allows for a more energy efficient operation of the hotel's HVAC system.



Conserving Water and Setting the Standard in Energy Efficiency

In order to limit water use, the Sheraton Seattle uses 1.5gpm sink faucet aerators and 2.5gpm shower heads in our guestrooms. Highly efficient low flow toilets (1.6 gallons per flush) are used in all guest rooms adding to the water savings.

To save 480,000 watts of electricity, our hotel has replaced a standard electric water heater with an instantaneous steam-to-water heat exchanger. This highly efficient “MAC” system results in a significantly reduced carbon footprint.

Make your Meeting Green

Invite your attendees to participate in the Sheraton “Green” movement by providing them with custom logo water bottle during registration. Water bubblers can be set in meeting rooms and pre-function areas for attendees to fill up their water bottles. Another way to encourage your attendees to go “Green” is by setting up paper, plastic, glass, and name badge recycling receptacles in pre-function areas.

Eating at your meeting can be “Green” as well. We offer sustainable “Green” menus which emphasize local and organic products. Local products reduce waste associated with long-haul shipping. The Sheraton Seattle can further “Green” your meeting by providing pitchers of fresh fruit waters and juices instead of bottled beverages, serving fresh baked cookies instead of packaged candy bars, and serving your guests Starbucks Organic Blend coffee. Please contact a Sheraton Seattle Catering or Convention Service Manager to learn more about creating Green menus.

Feeling the “Green”- from the Moment you Arrive in the Emerald City

In partnership with EnergyBuilt, Sea-Tac Airport opened Washington’s first natural gas station to fuel airport vehicles, shuttle vans and taxis. An underground hydrant system for aircrafts has replaced diesel trucks, and a new ramp tower reduces emissions by managing the movement of aircrafts on the ground to reduce traffic and taxi times. The hotel provides a number of environmentally friendly mass transit options for airport transfers and group charters. The “Downtown Airporter” shuttle service stops frequently at each of the downtown core hotels and costs far less than an individual taxi cab fare. Seattle’s Metro bus system also can transport guests to and from the airport, and with over 200 hybrid buses in it’s fleet, riding the metro bus is an environmentally friendly option. For group transportation and off-site charters, MTR Western’s luxury line of motor coaches is the Green way to travel. This fleet of 74 vehicles is the first to have a “net negative carbon footprint.” They achieve this feat by utilizing next generation, EGR engines and offsetting the remaining emissions by purchasing forest carbon offsets from the Pacific Forest Trust.