

Sheraton Seattle Hotel

Seattle, Washington

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GOING GREEN

Recycling and Composting

The Sheraton Seattle was one of the first hotels to introduce a voluntary recycling program back in 1993. Each department utilizes designated receptacles to collect recycled goods, and the entire Sheraton family participates. We recycle paper, plastic, cardboard, glass, aluminum, fluorescent light bulbs, toner cartridges, oil, batteries and pallets. Composting bins are also utilized in all areas of our food and beverage operation.

Waste Minimization

Like many hotels, each Sheraton Seattle guestroom has an opt-in linen and towel replacement program that reduces the amount of chlorine, detergents, and water used in the cleaning process. Sheraton Seattle 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 “You Tidy, We Treat” card on the outside of their guestroom door before 2 a.m. In return for going green, guests receive a \$5 gift card or 500 SPG points for each day they participate.

Energy and Water Conservation

The entire Sheraton Seattle Hotel is outfitted with compact florescent bulbs, and all 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 guestrooms 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, which is also utilized in all areas of our food and beverage operation.

In order to limit water use, the Sheraton Seattle uses 1.5 gpm sink faucet aerators and 2.5 gpm shower heads in our guestrooms. We also utilize highly efficient, low flow toilets (1.6 gallons per flush). To save 480,000 watts of electricity, our hotel has replaced a standard electric water heater with an instantaneous steam-to-water heat exchanger.

Eco-Friendly Cleaning

All Sheraton Seattle guestrooms are cleaned with approved green chemicals. The new products are highly concentrated and dispensed through a small bag. The design of the container saves energy by reducing the need for packaging, shipping and storing of the products. Water is saved with a dilution controlled dispensing system that ensures a proper mix of chemicals. The dispenser reduces landfill waste up to 80% over a traditional ridged container.

Raising Awareness

Sheraton Seattle’s Green Team is a cross-departmental group that promotes and advocates green practices in the hotel. The team works to educate associates on ways to be green at work and at home. The Green Team invites all associates to participate in environmentally-focused charitable organizations and community events that promote cleaning up the Puget Sound and surrounding bodies of water.

Hosting Green Meetings

The Sheraton Seattle can help you create a green meeting. One option to consider is utilizing water bubblers instead of bottled water. This can result in a significant reduction in waste and packaging. Meeting planners can also provide attendees with a “logo-ed” conference water bottle at registration. This is a nice way to invite attendees to participate in the green movement.

The food served your meeting can be green as well. Sustainable banquet menus are available for breakfasts, lunches, dinners and refreshment breaks. Sustainably-grown products emphasize local and regional farming (to limit the waste associated with long-haul transportation), managed fishing, and goods that are free of growth hormones, toxic pesticides and fertilizers.

Green Transportation

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, and a new ramp tower reduces emissions by managing the movement of aircraft on the ground to reduce traffic and taxi times.

Once on the ground at Sea-Tac, there are a number of eco-friendly options for transportation to the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. The Downtown Airporter is a carpool-style shuttle service that stops frequently at each of the downtown hotels and costs far less than an individual taxi cab fare. Seattle’s Metro bus system can also transport guests to and from the airport, and with over 200 hybrid buses in it’s fleet, riding a 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.