

green initiatives the westin bayshore, vancouver

kitchen and stewarding

- Our chef observes responsible food planning and purchasing practices to reduce waste and spoilage
- We buy locally available product whenever available
- Careful disposal of organic matter (composted off site)
- Recycling of all bottles, tins, containers, pallets
- Deep fat frying oil and fats are recycled off site
- We recycle cardboard boxes from incoming shipments
- We separate and recycle all paper products
- Any leftover food that is servable is donated to local charities (Food Runners picks up daily for the Greater Vancouver Food Bank)
- New dishwashers installed that are more energy efficient and use less water
- Supply orders are in bulk and in bulk packaging
- Supply deliveries are kept to only a few times per week - saves on gas

housekeeping

- Our guest rooms have all been equipped with recycling blue boxes since 1993: we recycle paper, bottles, cans and plastics
- Optional linen cleaning program allows guests to choose whether or not they want to reduce their linen washing - saving energy and water
- Non-toxic cleaners used in Housekeeping and laundry
- Left over soap and shampoo is collected and given to charity
- "Hanger caddies" are located in Housekeeping and associate locker rooms to recycle hangers
- Used linen is recycled as rags and drop sheets for painting
- Some old towels are donated to the Vancouver SPCA

- Old beds, furniture and equipment is sold to a liquidator for resale
- TV's in guest rooms have an energy saver - shut off after a period of time
- Casement closed in guest rooms - thermostats at 20C (68F) in winter and 22C (72F) in summer
- Chemicals are in spray **bottles** as opposed to spray **cans**
- All guest rooms are Breathe Westin non-smoking - reduced the use for air freshener chemicals
- Old memos and letters to guests are used as scrap paper in Housekeeping
- Vacuums were changed to a more dust free disposable bag
- Motion sensor paper towel dispensers placed in heart of the house areas and in kitchen
- Uniforms are now made from recycled plastic
- Some guest bathrooms have liquid soap and shampoo dispensers
- Cleaning cloths are reusable micro fibre - more hygienic and less chemical is being used
- Guest room bathrobes are made from microfiber instead of terry cloth - less drying time (reduction in electricity and gas)

engineering

- Our conference centre, built in 2002, was built energy-efficient, maximizing natural light to reduce electricity and heating
- Newly renovated rooms have reduced our energy consumption by 60% by installing state-of-the-art digital room thermostats
- Installed compact fluorescent bulbs in every fixture that can accept them
- Sophisticated control system for our cooling plant that senses a number of different variables before deciding which chillers to start and stop = saves electricity
- Building Control system - gives Engineering individual control over the temperature of every meeting room - ensures that empty rooms have their heating and cooling reduced as required
- Two new very high efficiency boilers, used for both heating and domestic hot water production.

- Storage rooms are equipped with timer light switches
- Meeting rooms - lights are turned off after meetings
- Guest elevator by outdoor pool is shut down from 11:00 pm to 6:00 am
- Shut down escalators every evening or when 2nd floor not in use
- Guest floors are closed down in low occupancy months
- Refreshment Centre fridges are ozone friendly
- Guest bathroom and guest corridor lighting - energy fluorescent
- Energy-saving bulbs in the vanity lamps - they only come up to full power if they have been on for more than 7 minutes
- We changed the refrigerant in both large chillers for a more ozone-friendly product
- Installed a four-pipe heating/cooling system to replace the old two-pipe system, which was very wasteful of energy
- The Hotel is a BC Hydro PowerSmart partner, working closely with our Key Account Representative to ensure we are taking advantage of best practices from all industries
- The Hotel also uses Six Sigma methodology to ensure we are importing every possible best practice from within our company

- LED lighting installed in areas to replace incandescent eg: Convention Centre chandeliers.
- Liquid pool cover being used which can save between 17-40% of energy.
- Low flow toilets and faucets in all guestrooms.
- 3rd party energy audit done of the property in July of 2011 to give recommendations for further energy saving measures.
- Partnered with BC Hydro on a test project for motion sensor lighting in hallways and stairwells.

front desk

- Mobile check-in allows guests to use their mobile devices to check-in and reduce recycling of keycards

- Guests can opt to have a green check-out whereby guest folio is emailed at check-out to reduce paper
 - parking is discounted for hybrid vehicles

banquets

- Garbage and recycling sorting stations throughout convention centre
- Recycling blue boxes in all meeting rooms
- To reduce waste pads of paper, pens and water are set as stations in meeting room instead of at each place setting (Clutter Free Stations).
- Have water cooler stations in meeting rooms as a standard to minimize use of bottled water.
- Heavy-duty meeting cloths which require less frequent cleaning
- Select condiments can be placed in bulk containers to reduce wasteful packaging.
- Go linenless: we have custom buffet tables and back bar units that require no linens - reducing energy and water for linen cleaning
- All our dishes, cutlery and linens are reusable
- Biodegradable wooden cutlery and recyclable boxes for to-go meals
- We use mugs instead of teacups and saucers to reduce dish washing

did you know?

- The hotel financed the creation of Cardero Park (east side of hotel) during the last renovation in 2000 - more green space!