



## Sustainability INN Motion

### ***Let the Inn Be Your “Green” Destination for Meetings and Conferences***

*Many of the Inn’s meeting and conference clients have embraced environmentally responsible practices, and so have we. Below you’ll find a list of “green” questions we frequently receive from clients looking to host their event at the Washington Duke Inn.*

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#### **Does the Inn have a recycling program?**

Yes. Our current initiatives include recycling newspapers, cans, glass, plastics, cardboard, office supplies, paper, toner cartridges and cooking oil.

#### **Does the Inn use bulk dispensers for beverages, condiments and food?**

Yes. Examples include:

- Nineteen (golf grill) – condiment dispensers
- Rotunda (conference break area) – beverage dispensers
- Vista Restaurant – buffet dispensers
- Catering and Banquets – family-style dispensers

#### **What sort of water conservation measures does the Inn employ?**

The Inn approaches water conservation in two ways. We communicate the importance of protecting and conserving natural resources with everyone who visits and is employed by the Inn. Additionally, we have reduced our water consumption and have limited our use of water-polluting cleaning substances. Examples include:

- Low-flow showerheads, urinals and toilets throughout the property
- Utilizing a bio-amp for a natural, non-toxic processes which keeps water lines in our kitchen free from grease.
- Linen re-use program
- We use cleaning chemicals that require no flushing or rinsing with fresh water.

#### **Does the Inn use recycled and recyclable products?**

Yes. We routinely examine our inventory of operational supplies to ensure we use the most environmentally friendly and affordable options available. We use FSC certified 30% recycled paper for all printing. Restaurant to-go bags are 100% post-consumer recycled paper and are printed with water-based inks.

#### **Does the Inn source (purchase) food from local growers / vendors?**

Yes. We purchase our weekly egg supply, organically raised free-range chicken, artisanal cheeses and seasonal produce from local farmers and growers. Our breads also are delivered fresh daily from a local bakery.





### **Does the Inn use bio-based and biodegradable products?**

Yes. Environmentally friendly alternatives are used throughout the Inn. Our plastic bags are 100% recycled and treated with an enzyme that makes the bag total biodegradable. As bio-based products become increasingly available, we routinely investigate the feasibility of using them in additional areas throughout the facility. The Inn does not use Styrofoam.

### **How does the Inn train its employees on its green initiatives?**

We engage our employees around this vital issue in several ways. Examples include:

- All employees are informed of the Inn's green initiatives during the New Employee Welcome Seminar.
- We create standard operating procedures and training opportunities as we develop departmental and property-wide initiatives
- To highlight our initiatives internally, we have an employee "Green Board" and newsletter
- We have an eco-suggestion program for employees
- We also remind our employees to be conscientious in their conservation efforts both at work and at home.

### **What other environmental initiatives are in place at the Inn?**

The Inn is committed to developing and implementing environmental initiatives that continually improve business and personal lives. Additional examples include:

- We have an internal "Green Team." With representation from every department, the team's goal is to move us forward to being better stewards of the earth.
- We continually review conference center requirements established by the International Association of Conference Centers and maintain our Green Star Gold Level Status for Sustainability.
- To ensure our initiatives meet environmental practices established by our local government, the Inn participates in the EnviroStars program with the City of Durham.
- To ensure our energy and water conservation efforts meet or exceed university requirements, we consistently consult with the Inn's owner, Duke University.
- Continually embrace Duke University's green-purchasing guidelines and require our vendors follow those guidelines as well
- We have a Salt Water Chlorine Generation system for our pool and spa.
- We use HEPA filtered vacuum cleaners and a dry-extraction floor care process.
- All Banquet / Conference attendee discards are sorted into the proper recycling stream by our staff
- We continually challenge our vendors to source the most sustainable products available.

*If you have additional questions or are ready to work with a cutting-edge conference center that shares your "green" values, please contact a member of our sales team at 919.490.0999.*



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