

## Event Services FACT SHEET

# Environmental Sustainability: Sustainable Facilities and Practices

### *LEED Certification*

- LEED Silver Certification for existing buildings: Operations and Maintenance in the main facility achieved in 2011
- LEED Silver Certification for sustainable construction practices, furnishings, and equipment in the Conference Center
- Aiming for the LEED Platinum Certification for Summit

### *Waste Minimization*

- The installation of water bubblers in each meeting room resulted in 100,000 fewer plastic water bottles being used
- The conversion of all plumbing fixtures to low-flow models saves 80% of water usage in comparison to standard models
- A waste diversion rate of 78%, which ranks in the top 5% of businesses nationwide, totaling 938.6 tons in 2018
- When replacing 225,000 square feet of carpeting in 2011, 95% of it was recycled and over 200,000 pounds of waste was diverted from the landfill; Nearly 90% of all 2011 renovation waste was reclaimed and recycled
- Our Energy Star-certified solid ink printers generate only five pounds of waste per 100,000 pages in comparison to typical laser printers which generate 157 pounds of waste per 100,000 pages

### *Renewable Resources*

- Convenient recycle and compost stations are available at no additional charge
- We use 100% compostable utensils, plates, cups, coffee stir sticks, and box lunch items
- A local composting firm hauls away all food scraps, food-soiled paper and landscape trimmings. That same firm provides clean compost for use in our three acres of indoor and outdoor gardens.
- Carpet and wall coverings, installed as part of 2011 renovation, are made of recycled materials

### *Green Product Development*

- All food service equipment is Energy Star-rated
- As part of the 2011 renovation, we used long-life toxin-free porcelain tile, Greengard and NFS-certified solid surfacing material, and low VOC paints, paneling and trim
- We employ enhanced sustainable cleaning operations with an energy efficient, battery-operated HEPA carpet sweeper that maintains the building while managing air quality
- Green Seal-certified products and machines are used to perform 80% of the building maintenance needs
- Green Seal-certified paper products and soap, low-flow toilets and touchless faucets are used in the restrooms

### *Carbon Management Strategy*

- LED light installations save over 3,000,000 kilowatt hours annually, the equivalent of 337 households
- In 2019 we replaced 383 175-watt metal halide light fixtures with 56W LED fixtures for an additional estimated electrical savings of 445,060 kWh per year
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations are available in the main garage
- Meeting rooms were updated to include new Digital Energy Star-certified digital signage packages

### *Suppliers*

- Like much of downtown Seattle, our facility is heated by steam from a plant that uses waste wood as fuel. About 60 percent of this steam energy is created by wood supplied from construction sites, sawmills, factory crates and shipping pallets that would otherwise rot in a landfill.
- Our linens are supplied by a green-certified firm that has won awards for waste reduction; steam from their operation is recaptured to run machinery, and gray water from cleaning process is reclaimed, filtered and reused

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*Green Initiative Awards*

- We've been selected as Northwest Meetings + Events Magazine's best Green Venue in Washington
- Seattle Business Magazine honored us with its Washington's Green 50 Award
- Since the facility opened in 1988, recycling has been a standard procedure and our commitment was recognized by the Washington State Recycling Association with its "Recycler of the Year- Public Agency" award