

Mast General Store

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Highway 194

Valle Crucis

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Management and Reduction

Purchase renewable energy credits and/or greenhouse gas offsets

Choose local vendors to reduce transport of items

Institute fuel economizing programs for company vehicles such as regular inspection of vehicles, reduced idling, and route planning to minimize travel distances

Adopt alternative forms of transportation and fuels such as hybrid-electric, biodiesel, E85, or electric for business activities

Adopt alternative forms of transportation and fuels, such as participating in used cooking oil recycling programs for biodiesel processing

Solid Waste Management, Reduction, Reuse, & Recycling

Purchase products in reusable, returnable containers

Donate obsolete/unwanted equipment, electronics, furniture to charity

Eliminate use of Styrofoam and other difficult to recycle products

Ensure that printed materials are printed on paper with high recycled content (at least 35%) and print using soy-based ink

Purchase antiques and furniture from local vendors

Recycle damaged towels and sheets as cleaning rags and craft torn linens into other usable items (e.g. sheets into pillowcases)

Reuse newspaper, shredded paper, and incoming packaging materials for packing/shipping needs

When reusable options are not feasible, use disposable products that are compostable such as corn-based cutlery

Purchase recyclable toner cartridges

Use non-bleached paper napkins, towels, and coffee filters

Provide alternatives to individual plastic water bottles such as water pitchers/point of use water filters

Use rechargeable batteries

Ensure proper disposal of hazardous materials

Use preventative maintenance on equipment to reduce risk of replacement

Provide and publicize recycling bins

Selecting printers/photocopiers able to print on both sides

Distributing information to guests/participants via email and avoiding hard copy

Avoid use of fax cover sheets

Distribute inter-office documents using routing slips, bulletin boards, or email distributions rather than printing copies for staff members

Using both sides of printing paper and using the reverse side of printing paper for printing rough drafts

Streamlining operational systems that rely on paper or hard copies

Reuse envelopes for inter-office mail

Recycles the Following: Aluminum, Glass, Office mix, Batteries, Electronics, Plastic, Corrugated cardboard, Newspaper, Printer Cartridges, Phone books, Fluorescent light tubes

Freshwater Consumption Reduction

Conduct regular inspections and establish preventative maintenance schedules to ensure maximum efficiency

Educate staff on water conservation and best practices

When purchasing new appliances or fixtures, purchase water-efficient models such as those certified by EPA WaterSense® and Energy Star®

Install automatic shut off sinks in common area rest rooms

Mulch around plants to limit evaporation and discourage weed growth

Avoid hosing down sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots

Wastewater Management

Ensure proper use, storage, and disposal of cleaning products and other potentially harmful chemicals such as fertilizers and paints

Limit the number of chemical products used and stored

Ensure that all chemicals are securely stored and clearly marked

Use less harmful alternatives if possible such as organic substitutes for chemical fertilizers

Monitor equipment and products for potential chemical leaks

Use environmentally preferable or certified paints, solvents, and coatings (MSDS Health Hazard Rating of 1 or less)

Reuse paint thinners

Use latex paints rather than oil based paints

Educate staff on proper methods of containment and clean-up of spills, drips, leachings and conduct regular inspections of relevant areas

When doing exterior cleaning or pressure washing, proper care should be taken to avoid discharge of contaminants

Use environmentally safe cleaning products

Use best storm-water runoff practices to ensure that wastewater does not enter local waterways

Energy Efficiency, Conservation, and Management

Conduct an energy audit with an energy conservation specialist to determine your baseline energy use and what improvements should be

Develop a comprehensive energy education and conservation program

Use natural light whenever possible

Turn off electronic equipment at the end of each workday

Activate sleep/standby or low energy mode on applicable appliances and electronics

Maximize central air efficiency by allowing sunlight to enter through windows in the winter and blocking sunlight in the summer

Weatherize the workplace by ensuring that doors and windows have tight seals and remain closed when shut

Set water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit rather than pre-set 140 degrees

Replace existing lighting (particularly incandescent) with energy efficient or compact florescent bulbs

Use programmable Energy Star®-labeled thermostats. Set to appropriate temperature ranges and conduct regular inspections to ensure efficient function

Perform regularly scheduled preventative maintenance on equipment and appliances

Wrap water heaters with an insulation blanket

Install energy saving equipment whenever feasible, including timers, motion sensors, and master switches

Purchase and replace existing equipment with energy efficient or Energy Star® labeled electronics, appliances, and heating and cooling equipment

Insulate facilities, including pipes, interior and exterior walls, ceilings, and wall cavities

Use LED or electroluminescent exit signs

Open windows rather than using central air when appropriate

Install and use ceiling fans to circulate air in both winter and summer

Install variable speed fans where appropriate

Operate multiple and individual climate controlled comfort zones such as providing thermostats in each guest room

Clean lighting fixtures and lamps regularly to increase illumination

Use Energy Star's® or other similar benchmarking tools for the Hospitality Industry

Ecosystem and Biodiversity Conservation

Participate in local environmental and conservation efforts either through sponsorship, monetary contributions, or volunteering and supporting employees to do so

Provide environmental education materials and information on local biodiversity conservation efforts to staff and guests

Work with relevant parks and public land agencies to find out how your business might participate in ecosystem and biodiversity conservation efforts

Provide information on how staff and guests can become involved in community volunteer conservation projects

Develop partnerships with local conservation organizations

Contribute a percentage of annual net revenues to local non-profit conservation-based organizations

Participate in community events such as National Arbor Day, Earth Day, Great American Backyard Bird Count, and Take a Child Outside Day with local community

Air Quality Protection and Noise Reduction

Eliminate the use of ozone depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) in refrigerants and aerosols

Designate your property as a non-smoking establishment and/or designate smoking areas outside of the building

Purchase only no- or low-VOC paints, carpeting, and construction materials

Use High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters

Ensure that air filtration is in place/available

Providing Economic Benefits to Local and Indigenous Communities

Provide information to and encourage guests to purchase local products and services

Provide employment opportunities for local community members

Allow local artists to display and sell their handicrafts and art work at your property

Provide information to guests on local attractions and cultural activities

Form partnerships with locally owned businesses (e.g., restaurants and guide services)

Use local goods and services whenever possible

Involve your organization in local philanthropic projects

Provide volunteer opportunities for guests and staff

Exceed minimum local standards for employee's wages, salaries and benefits

Provide promotional information on local services and businesses to guests