Waste Management for Hotels and Restaurants

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Presentation Topics

- 1. Benefits of Effective Waste Management
- How to Organize a Waste Management Program
- 3. Reduce
- 4. Reuse
- 5. Recycle
- 6. Purchase Recycled Content Products



Benefits of Effective Waste Management

- ▼Cost reduction: less purchasing, saves staff time and reduces waste disposal bills
- ✓ Recycling is noticed by customers more than any other green initiative
- Recycling scores points on RFP's
- ∀ Helps the environment
- ∀ Helps the Maine economy



Getting Started: Organizing a Waste Management Program, 1

- Follow the "3 R's" *in priority order*: reduce, reuse, recycle. The biggest gains come from waste reduction.
- ✓ Audit waste stream: type and amt of waste/dept and opportunities for improvement; good audit form:

 www.earth911.org/library/brrc/pdf/WasteAssForm.pdf



Getting Started: Organizing a Waste Management Program, 2

- Ask staff how to reduce waste
- ✓ Set policies with goals, accountability and a training plan
- ▼ Consider incentives and staff commitment letter
- ▼Keep monthly statistics on trash and recycling: bills, # of pickups and weight



Reduce, 1

- ➤ Refillable amenity dispensers can replace soap, lotion, shampoo and conditioner bottles
- Highly concentrated cleaning supplies
- ✓ Switch from incandescent to fluorescent lights—they last 5x longer. Or use LED bulbs—they last 25x longer.



Reduce, 2

- Restaurants: washable table cloths and dinnerware, reusable coffee filters, condiments in bulk dispensers
- ▼Bottled water: eliminate it by using filtered water instead



Reduce, 3

- ✓ Use carpet squares so you can replace just the areas that are stained or worn
- Modular mattresses allow hotels to replace just the mattress tops
- ✓ Eliminate un-requested newspapers
- ▼ Copy paper: require documents to be doublesided; use a smaller font and margins
- ✓ Ask hotel suppliers to reduce excess packaging
- ▼ Permanent mugs for staff



Reuse, 1

- ✓ Donate linens, blankets, towels, toiletries, old uniforms to shelters, relief agencies
- ✓ Donate re-servable food to hunger relief agencies. Give pig farmers food that agencies won't take.
- **∀** Furniture
 - Refinish it: <u>www.therefinishingtouch.com/</u> or <u>www.remanufacturinganddesigngroup.com/</u>
 - Donate it to relief agencies



Reuse, 2

✓ Construction & Demolition Materials

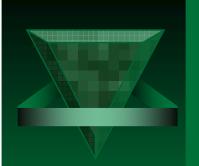
- There are markets for ~20 commodities; >80%
 reuse/recycling rate possible; plan carefully and specify reuse / recycling in contract
- Before project begins: furniture, casework, carpeting, ceiling tiles, lighting (bulbs, ballasts, fixtures), wiring and cable, HVAC equipment, bathroom fixtures
- Before demolition: wood, windows, doors, porcelain fixtures, partitions
- After demolition: asphalt, brick, concrete, wood, metals, glass, roofing, mixed debris



Reuse, 3

- ▼ Toner cartridges: ship to re-manufacturers.

 Close loop by buying remanufactured toner cartridges--at a fraction of original price.
- Reuse garbage can liners that are still clean.
- ▼ Torn towels use as cleaning rags.



- Keys to a great recycling program:
 - Have a champion
 - Frequent audits
 - Monthly statistics
 - Hold staff accountable
 - Coordinate with hauler



✓ Working with haulers:

- Find a hauler for any commodity: www.earth911.com/
- Haulers can identify best equipment, staff education materials, collection schedules and whether compactors make sense
- Single stream is easier, saves space, less training.
 Consider segregating easily separable materials like cardboard, if you get a better price for it.



∀ Hauling Contracts

- review them to maximize savings
- to cut bill, you might have to reduce size of trash containers or frequency of collection
- eliminate volume requirements that discourage recycling
- consider bidding trash and recycling separately
- More advice:www.p2pays.org/ref/03/02098.pdf.



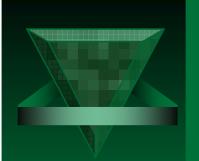
▼ Periodic Audits

- Check departmental wastebaskets, recycling bins, dumpsters at end of each shift. Are daily items being recycled: cardboard, paper, plastic containers, metal, glass?
- Clear plastic trash bags make audits easier to do.
- Recycling bins should be located next to every trash container, look different than the trash containers and be clearly marked.



∀Recycling bins

Attractive bins available from T2 Site
 Amenities, JRS Amenities, etc.



∀Food waste

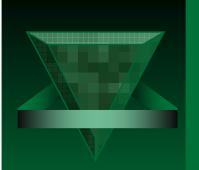
- find haulers that take food waste, yard waste,
 waxed cardboard to composting facilities
- Consider decomposition machines
- Used fryer oil can be recycled, made into biodiesel or burned to make electricity



∀ Electronics

- Electronics recyclers take computers, televisions, cell phones, pagers, copiers, printers, faxes, stereos, etc.
- See www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/reduce/electron.htm,
 www.epa.gov/osw/conserve/materials/ecycling/faq.htm

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✓ Other recyclable items:

- Mattresses: <u>www.greenlodgingnews.com/biggest-barrier-mattress-recycling--not-knowing-it</u>
- Fluorescent bulbs: www.epa.gov/epawaste/hazard/wastetypes/universal/la <u>mps/faqs.htm</u>
- Batteries:
 http://earth911.com/recycling/hazardous/single-use-batteries/
- Pallets: give back to vendors or recycle them
- Soap and shampoo: shelters, <u>www.cleantheworld.org/</u>, <u>www.globalsoap.org/</u>



Purchase Recycled-Content Products

- ➤ Paper: office paper (30% recycled paper performs as well as virgin), toilet and facial tissue, napkins, menu paper, cardboard.
- ▼ Toner cartridges
- ✓ Glass: bottles, jars, floor tiles
- ✓ Carpet
- ▼ Trash can liners
- ▼ Trash cans
- ▼ Plastic lumber
- Computers with recycled material and other green attributes: www.epeat.net/

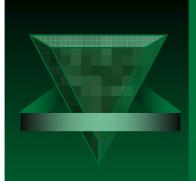


Resources

- ★ Recycling Guidebook for the Hospitality and Restaurant Industry, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Department of Environmental Programs, www.p2pays.org/ref/05/04032.pdf
- ▼EPA WasteWise Program:

 www.epa.gov/osw/partnerships/wastewise/a

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