

Organizing Green Meetings An Association Perspective

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Organizing Green Meetings: An Association Perspective

What is a Green Meeting?

A green meeting ensures that all aspects of an event, including its location, food services, transportation and the provision of materials are approached with pollution prevention in mind in order to minimize its environmental impact.

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Everyone is going green.

Is it a trend?

Is it a niche market?

It can be a competitive advantage!

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Canadian Council
of Ministers
of the Environment Le Conseil canadien
des ministres
de l'environnement

Every year - on average – we:

- **Organize 33 to 35 small meetings a year**
- **Book 1,700 room nights**

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What do we want?

- All dishes, cutlery and linens are reusable.
- Disposable items, such as individual creamers and packaged sugar are to be avoided, when permitted by local public health regulations. If not allowed by such regulations, this information should be conveyed to all participants.
- Beverages (juice, coffee, tea, soft drinks, milk, etc.) to be available in jugs or recyclable containers.
- Recycling receptacles are to be made conveniently available for paper, glass and aluminum.
- Natural light in the meeting space.
- Free (or low cost) internet.

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What do we require of suppliers?

- A comprehensive procurement policy that includes a commitment to environmental factors throughout product life cycles.
- Recycling program, both in facility administration and guest services.
- Water and energy conservation program.
- Food services reduces disposable packaging in catering; equipment is operated for maximum efficiency; menus are printed on EcoLogo-certified paper with a high post-consumer recycled content, preferably unbleached.
- Use of recycled content writing paper, toner cartridges, etc.
- Use of biodegradable cleaners, Eco-logo certified.
- Hazardous wastes are properly collected, stored, transported and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.
- Guest room linens, soap and bottled amenities not changed daily unless requested by guest.

AND THAT YOU CAN PROVE IT

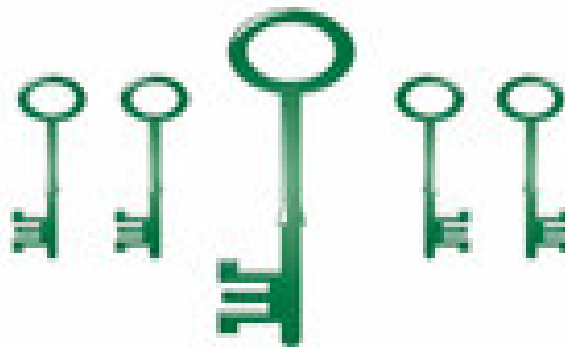
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Green Leaf:



Green Key:

Green Key ECO-Rating Program



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Find out more

- Green Leaf rating:
www.terrachoice.ca/hotelwebsite/indexcanada.htm
- Green Key Rating:
www.hotelassociation.ca/site/programs/green_key.htm
- Green Meeting Industry Council:
www.greenmeetings.info
- Environment Canada's Green Meeting Guide:
www.greeninggovernment.gc.ca