

THE WESTIN MELBOURNE

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Water Management

- The Westin Melbourne has devised a water conservation initiative to demonstrate both the hotel's commitment to conserving water in all areas of its business, and its concern about the widespread effect of drought in rural Australia
- The Westin Water Wise campaign aims to minimise water usage by providing various tips on how hotel guests can save water during their stay and by encouraging hotel associates to find water saving techniques. Most recently, in partnership with City West Water, the hotel has retro-fitted 3 star water efficient showerheads on its Heavenly Showers. This initiative has resulted in a 76% showerhead water saving reduction with no effect to shower comfort or feel
- Water-conserving toilets and urinals reduce demand on finite freshwater resources. Toilet-tune up measures have been incorporated into a guest room preventative maintenance program to ensure there are no unnecessary leaks
- Costs saved through water usage reductions have been donated to Farm Hand, a charity established to help drought afflicted families.

Waste Management

- Paper, corrugated cardboard, glass, plastic and metals are recycled.
- The Westin Melbourne has also appointed an external company that successfully turns liquid food wastes into a quality organic agricultural fertiliser. This is reusing and recycling at its best - all liquid food waste is collected in a special composting bin which is then collected for its next use.

Energy Management

Lighting accounts for a large portion of electricity consumption in hotels. The Westin Melbourne's use of higher efficiency lamps, such as compact fluorescent lamp bulbs (CFLs) and light emitting diodes (LEDs), directly reduces this consumption and the associated emissions, and also reduces air conditioning loads as they do not produce as much heat as traditional incandescent lamps.

Preventative maintenance is essential to ensure that equipment and systems perform their intended function reliably and efficiently, thereby promoting energy conservation. Preventative maintenance also lengthens the life of equipment and components, delaying the need for replacement and thereby deferring the environmental impact and resource consumption associated with the manufacture of those systems.

Strategies Implemented

From November 2009, The Westin Melbourne has offered guests and meeting planner's carbon neutral visits through a process of measuring the gas emissions generated through an accommodation stay or meeting event and then compensating for, or "offsetting", those emissions by investing in projects that reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emitted globally into the atmosphere.

The hotel recognised the need to develop a carbon management strategy for its operations and partnered with CarbonView™, a global enterprise carbon management software and services provider and Climate Friendly™, ranked the number one offset provider in Australia by Carbon Offset Watch. The Westin Melbourne is accelerating the transition to a clean energy future and investing in technologies that provide long term solutions to global warming.

Projects to be completed

The Westin Melbourne has formed an Environmental Committee to continually review carbon reduction initiatives and projects that can be introduced and implemented.

Other

The Westin Melbourne believes that economic growth and the well-being of society are inextricably tied to the health of the environment. Accordingly, it embraces its responsibility for environmental stewardship and is committed to integrating leading environmental practices and sustainability principles into its core business strategy.

Through collaboration with its hotel owners, franchisees, suppliers and business partners, The Westin Melbourne actively works to reduce the environmental impact of its business activities and continually improves and innovates on practices aimed at:

- Conserving natural resources
- Minimising waste and pollution
- Enhancing indoor environmental quality
- Establishing and reporting on key environmental performance indicators
- Raising environmental awareness among its associates, guests and communities.

The Westin Melbourne acknowledges that, in many ways, it, like the global community it serves, is only in the early stages of developing and implementing the many changes that will be necessary to achieve these vital goals.

Nonetheless, it strongly believes that its efforts to support a healthy environment serve the interests of both current and future generations and constitute the foundation for enduring success.

The Westin Melbourne has committed to a framework to aid decision making and strategy formulation. Its approach consists of the following:

1. TO ASSESS its activities, products and services regularly to review their impact on the environment. This will include feasibility studies on any new products or initiatives
2. TO ADOPT the measures needed for reducing contaminating emissions and the production of waste, starting from possible clean technologies that are applicable
3. TO COMPLY with applicable environmental legislation and regulations and with the rest of the commitments taken on by other Starwood Hotel properties
4. TO PROMOTE a sense of responsibility towards the environment among all associates through training and continuous education
5. TO COLLABORATE with public authorities in setting up emergency procedures that minimise any adverse effects on the environment
6. TO PROVIDE guests with appropriate collateral that encourages participation in the Environmental Policy
7. TO ENCOURAGE subcontractors working in the hotel to abide by its Environmental Policy in their daily tasks
8. TO WORK with other environmental committees and the media in regards to the hotel's Environmental initiatives.