



Q Center's Environmental Commitment

At Q Center, we are committed to being an environmentally responsible leader in the hospitality industry. We take seriously our role in protecting the environment through a variety of initiatives while still meeting our guests' needs and expectations.

Reduce – Reuse – Recycle

- Q Center's reverse-osmosis water purification system ensures that guests have convenient access to purified water without harming our environment with plastic bottles. Purified water stations are located throughout Q Center along with eco-friendly cups, lids and straws made of 100% compostable materials.
- Recycle bins are located throughout Q Center. Bins are clearly marked for their specific purpose. An average of 4 tons of cardboard, 2.5 tons of paper and 50 cubic yards of commingled plastic, glass and aluminum are recycled each month.
- Copiers and printers are stocked with recycled copy/printer paper. Our colored paper is made from post-consumer recycled fiber. All meeting room printers have double-sided printing capabilities.
- Paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, metal, disposable technology, printer toner cartridges, waste containers from production printers, packaging paper and carpet squares are collected and recycled.
- Reusable plastic bins, in lieu of cardboard boxes, are used by our on-site print shop to store and transport print materials.
- Our shipping department uses recycled packing paper and purchases boxes made of 60% recycled materials.
- Recycled blacktop is used to resurface and patch roads, parking lots and walkways.
- Pencils, pens, notepads, markers and miscellaneous office supplies are donated to local schools and organizations. Leftover guest room amenities such as shampoo and conditioner are donated to local charities.

Environmentally Sensitive Purchasing

- The six most frequently used cleaning products for the residence and conference areas are Green Seal certified.
- Low VOC latex paints are purchased for 98% of our applications.
- Paper products are purchased from the only mill that gets 100% of their manufacturing electricity from emission-free wind power.
- We adhere to the Monterey Bay Aquarium sustainability program and purchase our seafood according to their Seafood Watch program.
- We work closely with all key vendors on eco-friendly purchasing options, including availability of new green products and locally supplied brands and foodstuffs.
- Compostable cups, carry-out containers and utensils are available in Q Center dining and retail operations.

Conservation of Energy, Water and Other Natural Resources

- Energy efficient bulbs are installed in most applications.
- Room temperature and lighting are constantly monitored in our data centers to minimize energy consumption. These rooms are laid out to maximize cooling efficiency.
- Water saver shower heads and commodes are installed in all guest rooms.
- Motion sensors are installed in many meeting rooms, closets and offices to shut off lights when these areas are unoccupied.
- Our towel reuse program encourages guests to use their towels more than once.
- The energy management system involves conservation measures, including overnight fan shut-off and centrally managed automated outdoor light controls.
- More than 80% of meeting rooms have thermostats, and large rooms are centrally programmed.
- Our staff checks meeting room thermostats and turns off lights when making rounds after normal business hours.
- Q Center's irrigation system uses non-potable water that is drawn from our retention pond and supplemented by well water only when necessary.
- Printers, copiers and fax machines conform to EPA Energy Star specifications. This allows them to go into standby, which results in energy savings.
- High-efficiency hand dryers are installed in several public restrooms. They are being tested for their potential to replace paper towels.

Responsible Operations Practices

- Yard waste is composted regularly, recycling nutrients back into the ground and saving landfill space. Eco-friendly products are used to treat the pond for algae.
- Select herbs and vegetables are grown and harvested in our on-site organic garden.
- An energy reduction plan is activated during heavy energy usage periods.

Hazardous Substance Management

- We enforce proper disposal of hazardous materials such as batteries, light bulbs, CFLs, paints and solvents.
- We have a compliant CFC recovery program covering refrigeration systems and equipment. Most equipment has been converted to more eco-friendly refrigerants.
- Q Center's spill containment program ensures rapid clean-up to minimize any impact to the environment.

Q Center

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