

GREEN HOTEL in the GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE

PROGRAM STANDARDS

BACKGROUND

Once ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNER status is attained, those wishing even greater recognition can strive to have their properties designated as a GREEN HOTEL IN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE. Such designation reflects a commitment to pollution prevention and exemplary environmental management. Each property seeking to achieve designation as a GREEN HOTEL commits to meeting additional standards.

The technical assistance services of the Environmental Assistance Division and the Retired Engineers And Professionals Program (REAP) which is administered by the Vermont Small Business Development Center (SBDC) are available to those seeking help to adopt the standards. Please call the Vermont Small Business Development Center at (800) 464-7232 for more information. The standards for ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNER designation are described in detail below.



STANDARDS FOR GREEN HOTEL DESIGNATION

COMPLETE STANDARDS

All hotels receiving designation as a **GREEN HOTEL in the GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE** must achieve all three (3) standards listed below:

1. Achieve status as an ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNER.

Each property designated and recognized by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Small Business Development Center as a **GREEN HOTEL** must first achieve ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNER status.

2. Attend an Environmental Management Planning workshop that will help you develop a comprehensive environmental management plan or system that (a) builds on the findings of an environmental assessment, (b) considers the technical and economic feasibility of various strategies, (c) defines waste reduction goals and measures of success, and (d) describes an action plan for implementing selected strategies.

Evaluate each area of operations at your property (the environmental assessment done previously as Core Standard #4 for PARTNERSHIP status) and draft a comprehensive environmental management plan that should become the basis of your environmental management system. Each GREEN HOTEL IN THE GREEN MOUNTAIN STATE should have a plan describing how management and staff will work together to achieve greater resource efficiency and reduced waste generation throughout the property. Staff of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resource's Environmental Assistance Division and of the Vermont Small Business Development Center, and associates of the R.E.A.P. (Retired Engineers And Professionals) Program are prepared to provide free on-site,

confidential technical assistance to help you develop a comprehensive environmental management plan and to implement and sustain your environmental management system. Applicants must also be able to ensure compliance with all applicable environmental regulations.

3. Agree to host an educational event/tour at your property.

Host a tour or educational seminar at your property for other innkeepers or business groups to educate them about good environmental management and pollution prevention. Staff of the Environmental Assistance Division of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Vermont Small Business Development Center can help you to promote and run the tour. Also, agree to consider serving as an ongoing resource for other hotels to help them make environmental management improvements.

For answers to any questions you may have with regard to these standards please call the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources at:

1 - (800) 974 - 9559

The mailing address is:

**VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation
Environmental Assistance Division
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05651-0411
Attention: Doug Kievit-Kylar**

E-mail for more information using this address:

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