

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



## FOR SOUTH CAROLINA'S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

South Carolina's hospitality industry is a large consumer. Each facility purchases goods and services, creates and manages waste, uses energy and water, and just like an individual leaves an environmental footprint. Operating in an environmentally responsible fashion, the state's hospitality industry can lead by example with everyday, cost-effective practices that help protect and preserve South Carolina's environment as well as the quality of life for all South Carolinians. This "Best Management Practices" (BMP) fact sheet is part of a series.

# Green Lodging

This BMP has been costumed for hotels motels and other lodging facilities, to provide additional environmental assistance – that is specific to this industry – not included in the other best management practice fact sheets.

## Waste Management

The following organizations provide information and educational material on waste management.

- \* The Washington Metropolitan Council of Government has prepared a recycling guidebook specifically for the hospitality industry that includes case studies from around the country. This document can be found at [www.mwcog.org/environment/recycling/hotelmentor/guidebook1.pdf](http://www.mwcog.org/environment/recycling/hotelmentor/guidebook1.pdf).
- \* Educational material and technical assistance is available from the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office). Visit [www.scdhec.gov/recycle](http://www.scdhec.gov/recycle), contact the Office at 1-800-768-7348 or e-mail [greenhospitality@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:greenhospitality@dhec.sc.gov).

## Energy Efficiency

The following organizations provide information and educational material on energy efficiency.

- \* Information about the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR program for the hospitality industry is available at

[www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=hospitality.bus\\_hospitality](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=hospitality.bus_hospitality).

- \* Hotels with food service should be designed with separate hot water systems for the food service area and the guest rooms. This allows for the guest rooms to be sized using less than 100 percent occupancy and for less than peak demand. EPA provides more information in its publication "Hotels: An Overview of Energy Use and Energy Efficiency Opportunities" available on-line at <http://nepis.epa.gov/EPA/html/DLwait.htm?url=/Adobe/PDF/P1004NH9.PDF>.
- \* The American Hotel and Lodging Association offers a savings calculator for hotels at [www.ahla.com/Green.aspx?id=24788](http://www.ahla.com/Green.aspx?id=24788).
- \* The S.C. Energy Office (SCEO) offers assistance at [www.energy.sc.gov](http://www.energy.sc.gov) with educational material including "The Energy Factbook." An on-line version of the factbook is available at [www.energy.sc.gov/publications/Energy\\_Factbook\\_03.pdf](http://www.energy.sc.gov/publications/Energy_Factbook_03.pdf). SCEO also provides Energy Fact Sheets that are available at [www.energy.sc.gov/publications/Energy%20Factsheets.pdf](http://www.energy.sc.gov/publications/Energy%20Factsheets.pdf).

## Water Efficiency

The following organizations provide information and educational material on water efficiency.

- \* DHEC's Bureau of Water (BOW) provide a fact sheet on water efficiency. View the fact sheet

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The Green Hospitality Program is offered by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office). To learn about the program or for help setting up, implementing or improving green practices, call the Office at 1-800-768-7348 or visit [www.scdhec.gov/greenhospitality](http://www.scdhec.gov/greenhospitality).

on-line at [www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/docs/dwconserve.pdf](http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water/docs/dwconserve.pdf). A presentation-style format, offering facts and ideas to promote water efficiency and Water Sense can be found at [www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/pubs/rcc\\_presentations/c\\_roberts.pdf](http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/recycle/pubs/rcc_presentations/c_roberts.pdf). For additional information, visit BOW at [www.scdhec.gov/water](http://www.scdhec.gov/water).

- \* The following links include EPA publications on WaterSense and the environmental benefits of water efficiency – [www.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/pubs/index.htm) and [www.epa.gov/watersense/water/save/env\\_benefits.htm](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/water/save/env_benefits.htm).

## Green Meetings

Remember that meeting participants usually generate paper products in the form of meeting/exhibitor handouts and newspapers. Refreshment breaks generate a considerable amount of plastic bottles and aluminum cans.

Follow these tips to reduce waste.

- \* recycle materials used in convention/meeting rooms;
- \* publicize your collection efforts in the convention area with reader boards, in-house menu television and inside meeting planner kits; and
- \* include recycling information in vendor packet so vendors know their recycling responsibilities.

Contact the Office to get your program started or improve an existing program. Call **1-800-768-7348** or e-mail [greenhospitality@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:greenhospitality@dhec.sc.gov). EPA also offers tips for Green Meetings at [www.epa.gov/oppt/greenmeetings/](http://www.epa.gov/oppt/greenmeetings/).

## Pool and Spa

Solar heating a swimming pool is one of the most economical forms of solar energy available today. The system can be easily added to new and old swimming pools, often using an existing filter pump system. Solar water heating systems use the sun's energy to preheat swimming pools and spas.

The following organization provides information about solar heating and other ways you can save energy with equipment for your pool and/or spa.

- \* The Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) offers information on heating your pool with solar power at [www.nrel.gov/docs/fy00osti/28038.pdf](http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy00osti/28038.pdf).
- \* EERE also provides additional information on managing swimming pool temperatures efficiently and estimates the cost savings at [www.energysavers.gov/your\\_home/water\\_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13300](http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/water_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13300).
- \* Clean pool and spa filters by dismantling rather than backwashing. Save as much as 75 percent on your pumping bill by proper installation and energy-efficient use of your pool pump. For more information, visit EERE's Web site – [www.energysavers.gov/your\\_home/water\\_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13290](http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/water_heating/index.cfm/mytopic=13290).

## Sanitation Questions

DHEC's Division of General Sanitation enforces, evaluates and revises laws and regulations for hotels and motels. For questions and additional information, please call (803) 896-0655.



The **S.C. Green Hospitality Alliance** is a free, voluntary program designed to: 1) help South Carolina's hospitality industry reduce the environmental impact of its operations as well as incorporate environmental stewardship and sustainability in its business practices; and 2) promote and recognize member hotels, restaurants as well as other hospitality facilities for their environmentally conscious practices. The Alliance

was developed in partnership by the S.C. Restaurant & Lodging Association and DHEC's Green Hospitality Program.

For more information, call DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling at **1-800-768-7348** or visit [www.scdhec.gov/greenhospitality](http://www.scdhec.gov/greenhospitality).

