



National Recreation and Park Association



How NRPA “Greened” the 2009 Annual Congress and Exposition

Venue - Salt Lake Palace Convention Center

- A contracted disposal company utilizes single source recycling by sorting all trash and recycling all available material. Recycling bins were placed throughout the convention center.
- Solar panels power and operate the lighting in the expanded underground parking structure.
- Waterless urinals in the restrooms save 40,000 gallons of water per urinal per year.
- HVAC systems are controlled by a centralized system so the facility managers are aware of all temperature settings.
- The facility offices all have motion sensors for the lighting systems so lights are only used when needed.
- They monitor and exceed the indoor air quality standard by increasing the air exchange rates in the facility.
- Utilization of drip irrigation systems in their landscape features, save water to evaporation.
- Bike racks were available in the parking structure to promote the use of human-powered mobility

Meetings & Exhibit Hall

- To reduce plastic waste, attendees were encourage to bring their own water bottles to refill at the water stations located throughout the convention center (compostable plastic cups was also available at the stations)
- Registration bags were 50% recyclable
- The 2009 Final Program was printed on 10% recyclable paper
- “10 Tips for greening a meeting” was provided to attendees via email and printed in the Final Program
- All signage printed by Hargrove was printed on recyclable cardboard and Graphics were produced using biodegradable materials. In addition Hargrove reuses some graphics for NRPA Congress from year-to-year.
- All signage printed by Hargrove that is not reused is recycled.
- HMS - The Hargrove Modular used for many of the NRPA temporary structures such as meeting rooms, show offices and booths utilize recycled aluminum which is recycled at the end of its useful life .

- Show Management Portal - allowed NRPA to manage graphics and floor plans online which eliminates use of paper proofs and ensures graphics are printed accurately without wasting materials.
- 3,300 lbs of paper was saved due to utilizing Hargrove's online exhibitors kits.
- Hargrove recycled 100% of all carpet used at Congress.

Transportation

- The frequency of the shuttle was reduced to lessen the carbon footprint of Congress.
- Attendees were encouraged to use the free tram in the hotel zones.

Food and Beverage

- Organic and locally grown foods were used during meal planning.
- Leftover food from the Welcome Reception, Movie Night and Closing Party was donated to the Road Homeless Shelter.
- Water coolers were used outside meeting rooms instead of individual bottle waters.
- 100% biodegradable greenware was used including hot & cold cups, plates, napkins and cutlery, which were plant derivatives instead of petroleum based.

Communication and Marketing Congress

- Paper usage was reduced as much as possible by using the web and emails to promote Congress.
- Attendees were encouraged to register online - a \$25.00 processing fee was imposed to those that mailed or faxed registration forms in
- Edits to the Preliminary and Final Programs were performed electronically where possible to significantly reduce the amount of paper used during the review and editing process.
- Attendees were encouraged to recycle their name badges
- Session and Speaker Management was done all electronically
- Continued the use of the Online Library to reduce the amount of paper speakers print and provide during their sessions.

NRPA's On-Site Office

- Boxes and packing material were reused to pack and ship materials back to the NRPA office.

Water Conservation (Marriott, Hilton, Sheraton, Hotel Monaco)

- Linen and towel reuse program for guestrooms (Marriott, Hilton, Sheraton, Hotel Monaco)
- Water recycling system in laundry facility
- Water saving devices throughout the kitchens equipment and faucets