



RANCHO BERNARDO INN

A Greener Inn

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Our Commitment

Rancho Bernardo Inn is committed to protecting our environment. “A Greener Inn” is our company wide program that strives to minimize our property’s operational impact on the environment through resource conservation and best practice.

In delivering this commitment, Rancho Bernardo Inn will endeavor to:

Work diligently to minimize our waste stream and conserve natural resources, particularly through conservation of energy and water. Value the natural and cultural heritage of our properties, allowing us to give our guests an authentic local experience. Comply with all applicable environmental legislation and strive to follow the best environmental practices. Make environmental considerations an important aspect of decision making. Review our “Greener Inn” program on a periodic basis. Promise to consider the opinions and feedback of our guests when examining our environmental programs and procedures. Identify areas for improvements and innovation at the property level and support the efforts of the staff.



Our Perspective

Nearly a decade before “environmentalism” became a catch word, Rancho Bernardo Inn was founded on an enduring connection to the land and communities where we do business. In 1970 James Colachis fell in love with this picturesque setting, surrounded by manicured lawns and gentle rolling hills that once were wilderness at the very front of the western expansion in the early 1800s. In an effort to minimize our impact on this land, Rancho Bernardo Inn ensures that our quest to protect our environment continues to grow and evolve.



Our Planet

On average, each guest produces over 2 pounds (1 kilogram) of waste each night, mostly composed of beverage and paper products. These two components account for 65% of all hotel waste.

Paper, packaging and garbage are a reality of our lives, and of any business. In 2005 Rancho Bernardo Inn began a dedicated effort to cut these side effects of our operations. While effective waste management comes with challenges, such as operating in communities without recycling facilities, we continue to reduce and divert waste and identify the opportunities. Since 2005 Rancho Bernardo Inn has recycled approximately 430 tons of paper, cardboard, cans and glass. That is over 850,000 pounds of waste that was kept out of our area landfills.



Resource Conservation

A typical occupied hotel room soaks up 218 gallons of water every day. Installation of water-efficient fixtures has decreased usage by an average of 30%, conserving nearly 4.5 million gallons of water per year.

In cooperation with the City of San Diego, a new Hydrologix treatment system removes fat, oils and grease (FOG) from wastewater, turning kitchen FOG into gray water and eliminating the need for grease removal and disposal.

To conserve energy, Rancho Bernardo Inn has developed a program called “Project Care,” an integrated approach that allows the guest to choose to reuse their terry and linens instead of having them laundered.

Guestroom thermostats incorporate occupancy sensors that go into “sleep mode” when the room is not occupied, reducing energy consumption by 20% - 30%.

An energy management system in the Aragon Ballroom provides "real time use" of the ventilation system to control HVAC functions on a time and event schedule, and shut down when the facility is not in use.

Our golf courses use electric golf carts instead of gas golf carts which allow us to conserve our fossil fuels.

In the summer of 2005, Rancho Bernardo Inn reduced annual electricity usage by 19,201 KW by replacing light bulbs with fluorescent lighting.



Community Connections

Energizing our promise to think globally and act locally, the Rancho Bernardo Inn has played a part in helping the local community.

Since 2005 Rancho Bernardo Inn has donated more than 150,000 bars of unused soaps to our homeless shelters around San Diego County.

The food on our menus is based on seasonal availability and ingredients from local growers whenever possible.

We make sure that our vendors are as committed to the environment as we are. Starbucks Coffee, utilized throughout the resort, is “Fair Trade Certified” and the largest North American buyer of fair trade coffee.



Protecting Our Land

Through key initiatives Rancho Bernardo Inn helps preserve the unique places where we work and live.

Since 2005 Rancho Bernardo Inn initiatives on its golf course have minimized pesticide use, protected water by using reclaimed water on its golf course, and encouraged wild inhabitants, such as rabbits and ducks to roam freely on the grounds.

Rancho Bernardo Inn also planted 400 new trees on the golf course in 2007. Tree planting is a key way to offset carbon emissions as one tree can remove approximately one ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime.

Currently our recycling program includes the following: cardboard, cans, glass, green waste (plant trimmings), toner cartridges, CRT monitors / TV with LCD monitors, and even our cooking oil which is donated to a local vendor for conversion into bio diesel.

Since the implementation of our pilot program to measure, standardize and expand our recycling program, Rancho Bernardo Inn has recycled more than half of its solid waste (59%).

Results –

- Replacing CRT monitors and TVs with LCD monitors. A reduction of lead into our environment: 1,628 lbs annually
- Recycled green waste: 480 tons annually
- Reuse and Recycle: Over 400 toner cartridges annually
- Cardboard that is recycled: 90 cubic yards per month
- Glass that is recycled: 8 cubic yards per month



Your Opportunity

We know you have heard it before, but it's worth repeating: Learn from organizations dedicated to protecting our planet. Start small, but act consistently. Reduce, reuse, recycle and rethink. Get outside. Walk, run, bike, use public transportation or start a carpool. Take the time to make informed choices, especially when you are considering a major purchase, consuming energy or traveling the world.

Rancho Bernardo Inn would like to ***thank you*** for helping to support our environmental efforts. Together we can make a real difference.

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