

Green Business Hawaii Sixth Annual Recognition Program March 22, 2010

Bamboo & spa



The Aqua Bamboo & Spa, located in Waikiki, is a recently renovated boutique hotel, with just over 90 rooms. Over the past two years, the Aqua Bamboo has progressively pursued sustainability initiatives and has been incorporating green practices in all levels of the operation.

Recycling

In 2009 the Aqua Bamboo & Spa recycled:

- ➤ Over 260 lbs of cardboard, saving two trees, and 910 gallons of water
- ➤ Over 520 lbs of glass, saving over 150 lbs of carbon dioxide from going into the atmosphere
- ➤ Over 120 lbs of plastic, the equivalent of 40 gallons of oil
- Over 400 lbs of newspaper, saving over 1,000 gallons of water and 1,000
 Kilowatt hours of electricity

Education and Outreach

➤ The Aqua Bamboo & Spa has a commitment to education and training which is done in-house and by outside sources for both staff and guests.

Policies and Procedures

- Purchasing practices have been modified for the staff to incorporate environmentally preferable purchasing.
- ➤ By purchasing Energy Star equipment the hotel not only receives a rebate but it cuts down on annual costs. The return on investment is greater than the original cost.
- ➤ Housekeepers recycle products left in the room by guests such as old newspapers, cans and bottles.
- Adjusted the irrigation schedule in watering the plants from anytime of the day to late afternoon or evenings only.
- ➤ The Maintenance department continues to monitor meters from electric to gas daily to check accuracy.
- Adjusting timers on lights based on outside environment and replacing light bulbs with CFL in the rooms and public areas.

Future Projects

- Aerator replacement in guest room water faucets from 2.2 to a lower .7 or .5 GPM.
- Solar power will be installed as the primary source of water heating for the hotel and residential rooms, pool and spa.
- Reconverting the elevator maintenance service back to its original manufacturer to ensure optimal performance with the building elevator system.
- ➤ Installation of room occupancy sensors to enhance control of lighting and air conditioning.

Conclusion

As a result of the Aqua Bamboo & Spa's green initiatives, the property has saved over 15,771 gallons of water, diverted over 7 cubic yards of waste from the landfill, averted over 135 lbs of air pollution and saved over 9,241 Kilowatt hours of energy in the last three months of 2009 alone. This innovative property has accomplished much through their sustainability efforts in 2009, and will be pursuing progressive projects for 2010.