2014 Annual Sustainability Report
Environmental Policy & Report Overview

Each year, the Colorado Convention Center and SMG strive towards operational practices which reduce our environmental impact, focus on conserving resources, and contribute to the local community. Outlined specifically, our sustainable initiatives focus in the areas of: Waste Reduction and Diversion; Energy Conservation; Water Quality and Consumption; Air Quality; Procurement; and Community.

Our goal is to continue our efforts in sustainability by continuing to act as a pioneer in the events industry by making all events sustainable. This 2014 report highlights some of our successes and future goals.

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The Colorado Convention Center strives to act as a steward for the environment and local community. This includes creating opportunities for staff involvement, education of stakeholders, and participating in programs which contribute to the overall benefit of the city.

In 2014, employees volunteered at numerous events throughout the year for these organizations:

- Food Bank of the Rockies
- 9 Health Fair
- Denver Comic Con
- Special Olympics
- Project Homeless Connect
- SMG

The Colorado Convention Center maintains 8 acres of land along the Platte River as part of the Annual Employee Clean Up Day.
The Colorado Convention Center focuses on being a community leader by pursuing a variety of certifications. Certifications are a valuable tool to both guide our programs and provide transparency of our efforts. We currently maintain certification to three leading sustainability standards.

- **Maintained EMS 14001 certification**

- **Gold LEED EB:OM Recertification, May 2014**

- **ASTM/APEX Venue Level 2, December 2014**
Our energy conservation programs are designed to optimize efficiencies in our energy consumption by focusing on infrastructure updates, best practices, and preventative maintenance. The program also tracks and record energy consumption to help monitor the impact of our efforts and establish benchmarking goals.

**Equipment Retrofits**

- Added A/C motor control (VFD) to 50 hp motor
  - $2,400 energy savings per year
- Replaced 24 life safety fan motors
  - +3% energy saving
- Replaced 70 relief fan motors
  - +3% efficiency per fan
- Replaced some A/C units
  - 50-70% energy savings per unit

**Lighting Retrofits**

- Removed **664.37 kW** from grid
- Saved **1,828,844 kWhr** per year
- Saved **$164,595** in yearly energy cost
- Will have **$2,122,149** 10yr energy savings
- Will have **$431,212** 10yr maintenance savings

**Solar panel array**

- Generated: **2,272 MWh** of energy to date
- **356,324 kWh** of energy this year
Waste Management: Reduction & Diversion

Our comprehensive waste management program focuses on identifying, reducing, and diverting the various waste streams created by venue operations, attendees, and clients. Components of this plan include a facility Waste Audit, as well as methods to reduce the amount of waste being created, manage inevitable waste, and divert waste from landfill by means of reuse, repurposing, recycling, and composting.

In 2014, the materials donation program reused or repurposed:

- 411 Tons of materials recycled
- 160 Tons of materials composted
- 24.5 Tons of materials donated

The program recycled over 5,493 pounds of paper, saving:

- 46% of waste is diverted from landfills
- 19,250 Gallons of Water
- 47 Trees
- 11,275 Kw of Energy
- 165 Lbs of Pollutants
Our air quality program addresses improving the Air Quality within and surrounding the venue. Areas of focus include ENGINE’S OFF! anti-idling policy and enforcement, smoking policies, alternative transportation, fleet vehicle management, and management of VOC’s and hazardous air pollutants.

More than 50% of employees take alternative transportation to work

Installed an Electric Vehicle charger

Solar panel array reduced emissions of 572,302 lbs of CO₂
The Colorado Convention Center’s water quality and conservation best practices address water quality and conservation methods including: chemical management, water efficient landscaping and irrigation, and building infrastructure (toilets, urinals, sinks, showers) efficiencies. The program tracks and records water consumption, and establishes benchmarking goals.

The CCC uses green cleaning supplies and practices to eliminate chemicals entering the waste water system.

The CCC monitors water usage weekly for accurate tracking and leak identification.
In 2009 the CCC developed an Environmental Procurement Policy to address and consider environmental and ethical impacts of our purchases, while adhering to the stated goals of the venue’s Environmental Policy. This includes a focus on regional, organic, and sustainable materials, as well as vendors who consider their environmental impact and support the mission of the venue. The EPP also includes contract and RFP verbiage, as well as contract compliance clauses.
In 2012 the CCC formed a Wellness committee with the goal to promote employee physical, emotional, social and environmental wellness. Since, the program has grown tremendously with engagement from employees in all departments. Some highlights include:

- **300+ hours of reading** with the book club
- **100+ hours of cycling** with the bike club
- **60+ hours of wellness education**
- **Fundraisers and community events** including the Great Strides Walk, Heart Walk, Bike to Work Day, and MS Muckfest
- **Film Club**
- Organized & produced its second 9Health Fair, offering free health screens, immunizations, medical referrals, educators, and yoga.
- **Staff ski trip to Cooper Mountain**
For the Future

Some of the goals for 2015 include:

- Continue lighting retrofits to decrease energy consumption by at least 3%
- Replace grass with Xeriscape to reduce water consumption for landscaping by at least 3%
- Continued volunteer efforts by staff
- Increase Waste Diversion to 60% overall for the facility