Hilton Minneapolis aims to operate in a fashion that leaves the softest environmental footprint as possible. Our goals are to reduce consumption and replace non-earth friendly items with sustainable ones, and to educate our guests and team members on how they can do the same.

Our Blue Energy- Sustainability Committee has compiled a comprehensive overview of the green initiatives and sustainable procedures currently underway in the hotel and has shared their findings below.

**Food and Beverage Initiatives**

- The food and beverage department plays an important role in disposing of food that has been exposed to the public (scrap) as well as kitchen prep waste. These items are picked up by Second Harvest and processed into hog feed for local farmers (The Hilton Minneapolis recycles over 44,000 pounds of food annually).
- Leftover food that has been ordered for large convention groups is often donated to local shelters or charity organizations.
- The Hilton Minneapolis works with the Heartland Food Network to purchase locally grown organic food from farmers in our area.
- Water service in the SkyWater Restaurant is offered upon request in efforts to conserve water usage.

**Executive Office Initiatives**

- All purchased Xerographic paper products are 50% recycled
- When applicable, all departments practice ‘paperless’ activities
- LCD projectors are used for internal meetings to assist in reducing paper use
- All office waste (paper) is shredded and recycled
- Ink and toners are recycled to eliminate the disposal of plastic cartridges into landfills
- Separate recycling containers for paper and cans/bottles are provided in office for proper disposal practices.
Back of the House Recycling Initiatives

- The Hilton Minneapolis recycles all cardboard products and uses the recycling packer to compress approximately 98 tons of cardboard annually. In addition, 90-gallon recycling carts are used to recycle over 7 tons of plastic and glass on an annual basis.

Guest Room Initiatives

- Body heat sensitive thermostats and door switches have been installed in each guestroom, reducing 30% of guestroom energy use. These sensors detect guestroom occupancy and adjust room temperature accordingly.
- Fluorescent light bulbs are used in guest bathrooms, desk lamps and bedside lamps which save approximately 4,600 kilowatts annually. LED lighting is also installed in all public areas including ballroom/meeting space and the lobby saving an additional 800 kilowatts annually.
- All guest rooms are equipped with water conserving shower head and toilet fixtures.
- The Hilton Serenity bed package includes pure organic cotton, grown without use of pesticides as well as mattress covers made of natural bamboo (a sustainable and naturally anti-microbial fabric).

Laundry and Housekeeping Initiatives

- To help conserve water used in our laundry department, housekeeping washes bed sheets every four days for extended stay guests (unless otherwise requested).
- The laundry department no longer uses softeners in the wash which reduces chemicals and extends the quality life of bed sheets.
- Wash cloths and towels that are no longer up to Hilton standards are turned into cleaning rags or donated to various local shelters.
- Used shampoo, conditioner and lotion is donated to local shelters
- Used bar soap is collected and donated to the ‘Global Soap Project’
- Hilton Minneapolis washes 3,000,000 pounds of laundry per year. The Ozone Laundry System (OLS), installed in 2008, reduces the typical load of laundry from 198 gallons to 89 gallons of hot water. Since the installation of OZONE, we have reduced our carbon footprint by 209,000 pounds annually.
Security Initiatives

- Function space lights are turned off when space is not in use
- Escalators running between 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} floors are shut down when function space is not be utilized.
- Back of the house dock doors are sealed to eliminate warm and cold air from entering or escaping the building.
- Function space restrooms are closed from 1-6am in efforts to conserve energy

Systems Upgrades

- Chiller plant has been retrofitted with variable speed drive which greatly reduces electrical consumption.
- Domestic water pumping stations have been replaced with high efficiency motors and drives, with a vertical multistage pump package.
- Continually upgrading buildings energy management system with latest technology for improved operating efficiency and control.
- High efficiency steam boiler plant with control package for maximum efficiency.