

## National Environment and Planning Agency

### Vision

That Jamaica's natural resources are used in a sustainable way and that there is broad understanding of environment, planning and development issues, with extensive participation amongst citizens and a high level of compliance with relevant legislation.

### Mission

To promote Sustainable Development by ensuring protection of the environment and orderly development in Jamaica through highly motivated staff performing at the highest standard.



*Managing & Protecting Jamaica's Land, Wood and Water*

*Source: Environmental Good Practice in Hotels, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) & International Hotel & Restaurant Association (IHRA).*

For additional information on how to "green" hotels, contact:

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*Create an Environment  
for Clean Living.*

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## The National Environment and Planning Agency NEPA

# GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES FOR HOTELS



## Good Practices

### THE PHILOSOPHY

*In today's world where we are at risk of losing our natural resources, all hotels need to adopt a policy of conservation and sustainability. Properties should be constructed and managed in a manner that preserves and enhances the environment while serving the public's interest.*

### WASTE

- Separate, compact and store on site all waste generated by the resort before sending to landfill or for recycling.
- Use both sides of all paper, including stationery, before recycling.
- Compost garbage (mainly fruit and vegetable from the kitchen) and use as fertilizer.
- Sell excess compost to local farmers and encourage them to supply hotels with fruits and vegetables.
- Use leftover juices and wines to make vinegar, which can be used as a cleaning agent.
- Pass used cooking oil through an oil recycler so it can be used in the manufacture of soap.
- Institute a waste separation programme to ensure the separation of: paper, aluminium, organic waste from the kitchen and garden, glass, batteries and other hazardous waste substances.
- Institute a shampoo and soap recycling system, replacing individual bars and bottles with refillable dispensers made out of recycled plastic.
- Use organic fertilizers, natural weed and pest control systems.

### ENERGY

- Install air-conditioning units that can be switched on manually.
- Reduce air conditioning load by fitting sun controlled film on all windows.
- Use energy saving light bulbs.
- Replace 60 watt incandescent lamps with 9 watt fluorescent lamps.
- Reduce vehicle use and emissions by setting up a bicycle hiring programme for guests.
- Switch off hot water boilers between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m.

### WATER

- Equip water outlets (taps and toilets) with water saving devices such as low flush toilets.
- Recycle laundry rinse water whenever possible.
- Use washing machines and dishwashers that can operate on low water cycles.
- Collect rainwater and use for many purposes. In an untreated form it can be used for flushing, while water which has been filtered, chlorinated and passed through an ultra-violet filter can be used for cooking and drinking.
- Use wastewater for hotel fountains and landscaping.
- Use plant species that require less water for landscaping.

## EMISSIONS

### Air-conditioning

- Ensure that the air-conditioning units use environmentally-friendly alternatives to chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) as they cause ozone depletion.

### Fire extinguishers

- Replace your traditional halon fire extinguisher at the end of its useful life with a more environmentally friendly alternative. Contact your supplier.

### Air quality

- Install ozonizers in guest rooms to improve indoor air quality. These devices break down the oxygen to produce pure oxygen, which removes odour and purifies the air.

### PURCHASING

- Adopt a policy to purchase environmentally sensitive products, e.g., items that are recyclable or biodegradable or made from recycled materials.
- Purchase items in bulk to reduce packaging waste.
- Reuse and recycle ink ribbons and cartridges.
- Purchase fewer items that require long-distance transportation thus reducing pollution.
- Use old sheets to make laundry bags thereby replacing plastic bags.
- Reuse containers for storing and holding cleaning liquids.

### STAFF

- Train all staff to incorporate environmental housekeeping practices in their daily routines.
- Specially train all engineering and maintenance staff so that they will be actively involved in improving the operating efficiency of all equipment.