



Citing Hotel's 100% Wind Power, Willard InterContinental Hotel Awarded DC Mayor's Environmental Excellence Award

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Washington, DC, April 29, 2009 -- Mayor Adrian M. Fenty recognized the Willard InterContinental for "Outstanding Achievement by a Hotel" along with 18 other District businesses and nonprofit organizations for their environmental stewardship, innovative best practices, pollution prevention, and resource conservation in the first-ever "Mayor's Environmental Excellence Awards."

"The Environmental Excellence Awards recognize the very best in sustainable commerce in the District of Columbia," said Mayor Fenty. "Every day, the winners demonstrate that taking care of the environment makes good business sense."

The awards are a component of the Mayor's Green agenda, and an effort to incentivize growth of local green enterprises, green existing businesses and District government, and train local workforce to fill green jobs of the future. Over several months, the management team at the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) accepted and considered 52 applications in 5 categories. Winners received an engraved award from Mayor Fenty in person at a ceremony today.

A leader in "Sustainable Hospitality", the Willard's award-winning, program, Willard InterContinental – The Next 100 Years is based on the Three P's (Profit-People-Planet), the holistic plan comprises interwoven sustainable projects designed for a luxurious urban hospitality experience in harmony with social and ecological consciousness. Visit www.willarddc.com/sd, a comprehensive guide to the Willard's sustainability efforts.

The Willard's Environmental Achievements at a Glance Include:

- 100% wind energy to power the hotel.
- Decrease in electricity consumption of 12% over past 5 years, even as occupancy rose.
- Donation of water well to a village in South Africa
- Donation of water well to a native American family in South Dakota
- Contributes to Earth Conservation Corps Anacostia River clean-up, educational and vocational efforts.
- Overall electricity consumption including Café du Parc restaurant decreased 6.5% from 2007 to 2008 alone.
- 100% water reduction with water-free urinals. In its first year, 2005, the Willard saved over 95,000 gallons of water. Projected savings by 2009 are over one million gallons.
- Green chemicals for in-house laundry.
- 100% removal of PERC non-renewable dry-cleaning chemicals.
- All papers consumed on property are 30% recycled paper.
- Recycling success: 191 tons in 2008, land fill wastes (non-recyclables) decreased from 1029 tons in 2005, to 635 tons 2008, a 38% reduction, even with a new restaurant added and 27% of this reduction came in 2008.

- In 2005, our first test year, we composted one ton. By 2008, our composting increased to 37 tons with a 33% increase over 2007.
- 100% elimination of oil-based paints
- “Adopted” local Thomson Elementary School for ongoing educational opportunities
- Partnered with Hermes on Fashion Fundraiser for St. Jude's Children's Hospital
- Hosted “Cinderella Ball” Prom for Disabled Young Adults

“For the District to continue realizing the Mayor's vision of one of the world's greenest cities, the private and nonprofit sectors have an incredibly important role,” said DDOE Director George S. Hawkins. “Today's award winners take that role to the next level. We thank them for helping us start a new tradition in recognizing green businesses each year.”

For winners of the 2009 Mayor's Environmental Excellence Awards and a detailed case study of each winning business, please visit <http://ddoe.dc.gov/awards>.