



# SPOTLIGHT ON... THE GRAND HOTEL IN SALEM

## AT A GLANCE

**The Grand Hotel  
in Salem**  
201 Liberty St. SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-540-7800  
[grandhotelsalem.com](http://grandhotelsalem.com)

### WHAT THEY DO:

Provide rooms and room service to customers

### THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHIC:

**Lighting:** Installed energy-efficient lighting in each of their 193 rooms and most public areas

**Buy in bulk:** Switched cleaning supplies from individual containers to bulk buckets

**Recycling:** Offers recycling in each room and public areas; recycles used soap through nationwide program



**The Grand Hotel in downtown Salem provides comfortable beds, luxurious bathrooms and all the amenities guests could want in their home away from home. Without sacrificing comfort, the Grand Hotel does it all with an environmentally friendly touch.**

One of the most important elements in a hotel is the lighting. Not only must the lobby lights provide ambience while also enough brightness for guests to conduct business, but the rooms must offer various kinds of lights so that a guest could set the mood, the brightness and the direction.

The Grand Hotel boasts 193 sleeping rooms with 10 lights in each room. With a large lobby, long hallways and vending



machines on each floor, the hotel carries a whopping electricity bill.

Led by Director of Sales Kristi Reed, the Grand Hotel purchased more efficient lighting for each of its sleeping rooms, the lobby and the hallways. Almost \$5,000 in rebates from Energy Trust of Oregon helped offset the \$13,000 in lighting expenses.

But the real savings comes every month with the utility bills. The Grand Hotel saves close to \$800 a month on its electricity bill.

And by simply turning off the light in the front panel of each of the 8 vending machines, the Grand Hotel saves \$400 a year.

Staff also installed light sensors at the back of the hotel so that the lights are only on when people are in the area. Lighting isn't the only reason the Grand Hotel has earned a premier green reputation.

Their recycling programs are among the best in the country.

The Grand Hotel was the first hotel in Oregon and the only one in Salem to participate in Clean the World's soap recycling program. Used soap, shampoo



Each of the ten lights in the 193 rooms were switched to energy-efficient models, saving the Grand Hotel \$800 a month on its electricity bill.

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and lotion is collected by hotel staff and shipped to Clean the World's Las Vegas facility, where it is purified and made into new soap. The new soap is delivered to domestic homeless shelters and impoverished countries. By participating in this nonprofit's program, the Grand Hotel eliminates

All of their green cleaners are now purchased in bulk buckets that can refill smaller bottles. This eliminates the waste associated with ordering 10 one-gallon jugs of cleaner that have to be trashed after cleaning a handful of rooms.



***"It's really a game," Reed said, smiling. "How much can we not throw away? How much can we compost? How much can we recycle?"***

Any cleaning work not done by hotel staff – such as window washing – is conducted by companies that use environmentally friendly products.

And for all of the piles of sheets,

towels and other linens that housekeeping staff needs to clean, only Energy Star appliances are used.

The Grand Hotel management staff is committed to this green mission, as evidenced by the piles of plastic materials waiting to go to plastics recycler Agri-Plas and the compost bins in each of their offices.

a huge volume of waste. For 2011 alone, the hotel recycled 750 pounds of soap and 750 pounds of shampoo and lotion.

The Grand Hotel also offers recycling bins in each room as well as in all public areas, such as next to the soda machines.

Cards on each of the hotel's beds and in each of the bathrooms ask guests if their towels and sheets need to be changed. The cards allow guests to use these items more than once thereby saving water, energy, detergent and wear and tear on the towels and sheets.

Housekeeping staff made some other big changes to be more environmentally friendly.



The recycling area in the break room features signs with clear examples.

*"It's really a game," Reed said, smiling. "How much can we not throw away? How much can we compost? How much can we recycle?"*

## EarthWISE Certification

Originally certified as a Marion County EarthWISE business in 2008, the Grand Hotel in Salem was the first hotel in Marion County to be certified. The Grand Hotel is one of more than 100 EarthWISE certifications in Marion County.



## WANT TO DO THIS AT YOUR BUSINESS?

Marion County's EarthWISE program can help. Visit [mcEarthwise.net](http://mcEarthwise.net), call 503.365.3188 or email [Earthwise@co.marion.or.us](mailto:Earthwise@co.marion.or.us)