



THE ORIGINAL GREEN
SEAL OF APPROVAL
SINCE 1989

Green Seal™ Certified Hotels Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Green Seal is the leading environmental labeling organization in the United States for sustainable products and services. Since it was first published in 1999, the Green Seal Environmental Standard for Lodging Properties, GS-33, has represented leadership in the industry.

Green Seal conducted a study to quantify the minimum of greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions of hotels implementing the fundamental of environmentally preferable practices outlined in GS-33.¹ The 2009 study focused on GHG savings for a single, typical hotel in Chicago, IL.²

- A hotel implementing a few of the simple measures specified in GS-33 can result in a 55% reduction of GHGs, roughly equal to a reduction of 400 tons CO₂ eq per year.
- This GHG savings from a single hotel is the equivalent of the annual GHG emissions of 73 passenger vehicles or the CO₂ emissions from the energy use of 35 homes for one year.
- The simple measures that resulted in this GHG savings included:
 - Using energy efficient lighting for areas that keep lights on for 24-hours (study modeled a 50% replacement of lighting on for 24-hours)
 - Use of occupancy sensors in areas such as meeting rooms, house keeping closets, and laundry rooms (the study modeled sensors in 10% of the hotel's square footage)
 - Implementing an effective preventive maintenance of the HVAC system
 - Using water-efficient fixtures
 - Setting the default on copy machines to double-sided
 - Establishing recycling programs for common and administrative areas
- These measures also saved water and material sent to the landfill for a single hotel.
 - 536 thousand gallons of water saved per year
 - 122 tons of waste diverted from the landfill per year
- These GHG savings are just the beginning since the study included only SOME of the measures GS-33 certified properties implement so...as more efficiency measures are taken, more savings will be seen.

ENVIRONMENTAL
LEADERSHIP STANDARDS



CERTIFICATION FOR
PRODUCTS, SERVICES,
PROPERTIES & COMPANIES



PARTNERSHIPS IN
GREEN PURCHASING AND
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT



SUSTAINABILITY
RESEARCH & LIFE CYCLE
ANALYSIS

¹ The complete study is available upon request, followed ISO 14044 and was peer-reviewed.

² For 200-room hotel in Chicago, IL with 180,000 square feet. GHG in terms of CO₂ equivalence