



Contact: Sissy Engelke
619 286 1733 tel
1 866 452 9920 fax
sissy@beginthedialogue.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Go Green! Doubletree Hotel & EMC Berkeley Marina Awarded Bay Area Green Certification

At the Doubletree Hotel & EMC Berkeley Marina, it's easy being green. The recently-renovated hotel is excited to announce its certification by the Bay Area Green Business Program. By focusing hotel-wide on reducing waste, donating extra food and supplies and taking increased measures to lower energy consumption, the property has met or exceeded the standards put forth by the local program – and has become one of the first hotels in Berkeley to receive their certification.

“It’s incredible how much we’ve changed to achieve our certification – and it’s made such a positive impact on our hotel and employees,” says Bette Gill, Director of Sales and Marketing. “Everyone feels great about the changes, we’ve created a more eco-friendly environment and are helping to ensure that Berkeley is beautiful for our guests for years to come.”

The hotel met numerous standards for its certification, including solid waste reduction and recycling, energy and water conservation and pollution prevention. The Bay Area Green Business Program verifies that businesses meet higher standards of environmental performance and has certified over 1,000 businesses and public agencies since 1997. Putting green first means that the hotel not only conserves resources but also educates customers and employees about environmentally-friendly living.

Guests will be pleased to know that the hotel recycles cardboard, newspapers, office papers, junk mail, glass and metal containers and plastics. Hotel staff members collect food waste for offsite composting as well as donate old uniforms and linens to shelters or nonprofits. The hotel also donates unwanted but usable items such as furniture, mattresses, drapes and bed linens. Not only are these efforts to reuse items environmentally savvy but they also provide much needed help for the community.

The hotel uses energy-efficient practices, including replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps, using time switches that automatically turn off office equipment and relying on programmable thermostats to control heating and air conditioning. The Doubletree Hotel & EMC Berkeley Marina has taken measures to reduce water usage as well. The facility uses water-efficient washing machines, faucets, dishwashers and toilets. Landscape was designed with drought-resistant plants and low-volume irrigation.

Pollution prevention is a top priority for the Doubletree Hotel & EMC Berkeley Marina. Policies restrict the purchase of hazardous products and limit access to those products to authorized staff only. The hotel's outdoor areas are just as pristine as its indoor space. Receiving and loading docks, dumpster and parking areas are kept free from litter, oil drips and debris. Storage areas are routinely checked for spills and emissions of chemicals, paints or cleaners.

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Visit the Doubletree Berkeley Marina online at www.berkeleymarinadoubletree.com to be kept apprised of our progress, or contact our sales department at **510.548.7920**.