

BUSINESS RECYCLING

Partnering for a better environment



Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn

Business type: Accommodation

Burnsville, MN

www.bestwestern.com

Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn is a 130 room hotel in Burnsville.

Challenge

The hotel was recycling within the kitchen restaurant but little was being done in other areas of the five floor hotel. Hotel guests were noticing the lack of recycling, so the manager at the Best Western Premier Nicollet Inn decided it was time to take action. "The thing that got me started on this was the fact that guests were making a lot of comments about recycling and the fact that we didn't offer it," said manager Nathan Kremer.

How we helped

Dakota County's Recycling Incentive program covered costs of new recycling bins and other supplies to set up a successful program. With the help of Dakota County's Sustainability Consultant, targeted areas for recycling improvement were identified. Recycling bins were added to the hotel's entryway, pool room, banquet hall, and on each end of every floor's hallway. Additionally, small containers were placed in every room, offering guests a convenient opportunity to recycle in their bathrooms and at their desks. With these changes, hotel cleaning staff were then provided the proper supplies and training to collect trash and recycling separately.



Outcome

These changes have led to enough of a trash decrease at Best Western that the hotel has been able to eliminate their trash compactor in favor of just a dumpster. Additionally, the hotel's recycling dumpster, which previously did not consistently fill up is now full upon weekly pick up, amounting to an additional 13,728 lbs. of recyclables collected each year that were previously being landfilled.

Highlights

Goal To expand recycling program to common areas and guest rooms

Why To satisfy customers with convenient recycling options and become a "greener" hotel

How Added recycling bins to all rooms, hallways, conference rooms, offices, and the pool room. Integrated recycling collection into daily operations

Results An estimated increase of **13,728 lbs. of recyclables** collected per year. Due to decrease in trash, the hotel's trash compactor has been eliminated.