

# Sustainability at HI-Boston



Boston Green Tourism Meeting  
Thursday, May 1, 2014



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# HI-Boston At a Glance

- 481 Bed Hostel
- 99 Rooms – 22 Privates
- Shared accommodations & resources
- Greenest Hostel in HI-USA Network
- Trip Advisor Green Leader – Gold Level and Mayor's Greenovate Award



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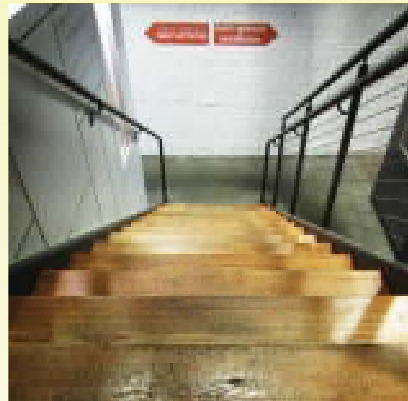


# Around The Hostel

Did you know? 

 Occupancy sensors and timers automatically turn lights off after 15 minutes.

*do not forget to turn out the light... and if you do, do not worry, we will take care of it*



# HI-Boston Green Design

- Repurposed building materials
- Recycled Furniture
- Energy efficient machines/appliances
- Historic building
- Energy-saving elevators



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# Green Project: HVAC Motors

- **Problem/Motivation:** Noise & energy consumption
- **Solution:** Changing original motors for ECMs
- Reduces energy usage by half
- Noise resolved—down to acceptable level



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# Green Project: Worm Factory

- **Motivation:** Encourage Composting & reduce carbon footprint
- **Solution:** Purchased 3000 worms
- Composted worms and soil
- Still not enough worms to meet organic waste/compost needs



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# Green Project: LEED Certification

- Hostel built to LEED Specifications
- April 2014: Submitted application for LEED Gold
- Process delayed:  
→ Engineers wanted to confirm energy model



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# Other Green Projects

- Manual soap dispensers
- Recyclable Ink Cartridges
- Shifted to tablets and phones for daily operations management
- Housekeepers certified as Green Housekeepers according to LEED
- Use the most plant-based chemicals possible



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# Successes

- Installing ECM motors
- Usage of green laundry chemicals
- General green materials
- Earth Hour – Intl. Initiative
- Paperless SOP tracking

# Challenges

- Delayed LEED Certification
- Not enough scale in worm factory
- Lack of direction/ownership for Green Team



# Lessons Learned

- Value of structure and process
- Setting clearly defined goals for green programs
- Better incorporating sustainability into day-to-day operations
- Accountability of projects



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# New Year, New Initiatives

- Setting Annual Green Goals
- Changing out Fluorescents for LEDs
- Green Education programs for guests
- Scaling Compost system & preparing organic waste system
- Installing solar thermal panel on roof
- Planning stages for Live Wall



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# Thank You!



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