

Both the TradeWinds Island Grand and TradeWinds Sandpiper Suites have been awarded the Florida Green Lodging certification by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in recognition of our mission to protect the area's natural resources, reduce waste and minimize pollution. The FDEP often sites TradeWinds as an example of how hoteliers can not only minimize their impact on the environment but also enhance the sustainability of their properties.

- Paper, cardboard and aluminum recycling programs are in place for employees, and aluminum and newspaper recycling programs for guests. Bright blue aluminum recycling bins are located throughout TradeWinds and signage encourages both guests and staff to recycle.
- Linen and towel reuse program through Southwest Florida Water Management District's CHAMPs (Conservation Hotel & Motel Program). Communication to guests includes instruction cards placed in the rooms.
- Bus stops are located at the entrance to both resorts, and serve the county bus line and the Beach Trolley, a fun open-air tram that runs 23 miles along Gulf Boulevard to shopping areas, restaurants and other points of interest.
- Air-conditioning/heating in rooms automatically shuts off when balcony doors are open.
- Reusable utensils and cloth napkins and tablecloths are used for inside dining at restaurants and for banquets.
- Energy-efficient appliances are *Energy Star-Rated*.
- Aggressive water conservation program has reduced annual water consumption by 30%. Program includes linen re-use, and irrigation with reclaimed water.
- Guests may check out on-line from the guest room and opt not to have a paper receipt.
- Paper products meet the criteria for recycled fiber content as outlined by FDEP's Green Lodge certification.
- Emphasis on indoor air quality. All guest accommodations are non-smoking and have high-efficiency air filters.
- Environmental initiatives are top of mind with TradeWinds staff. All office paper and aluminum is recycled and employees proudly display their Green Lodging and sea turtle pins on their name tags.
- TradeWinds was the first St. Pete Beach property to plant sea oats on the beach, restoring the native plant habitat of coastal dunes.
- TradeWinds is the first resort in the state to retrofit all beachfront fixtures with eco-friendly lighting, designed to help insure that newly hatched sea turtles do not travel inland, but instead are guided to the safe Gulf waters by the light of the moon.
- TradeWinds is located on an official Clean Beaches Council *Blue Wave Beach*. The award is based on beach and inter-tidal conditions, safety initiatives, services, habitat conservation, public information/education and erosion management.
- Pinellas County and the city of St. Petersburg are the first municipalities in Florida to earn the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) *Green City* designation. FGBC looks at green programs that benefit the environment in the areas of energy, water, air, land and waste. Some of the successful local initiatives include bio-diesel and hybrid fleet vehicles, reclaimed water systems, recycling and yard waste-to-mulch program, preservation of environmentally sensitive land, bike trails, tree plantings and environmental education centers.

