



Sustainability Guide

The Future of Sustainable Event Practices



Sustainability Pledge



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Director

At the Phoenix Convention Center & Venues, we are dedicated to sustainability and setting the standard for sustainable event practices. As a premier destination in the country, we are proud to align ourselves with the ambitious climate action and sustainability goals of the City of Phoenix. Through continuous innovation, thoughtful design, and collaboration, we continue to strive to minimize our carbon footprint, enhance our environmental stewardship, and foster a vibrant, resilient community that can thrive for generations to come.

"Sustainability isn't a feature, it's a foundation. As a premier destination for meetings and events, we are committed to making every event an opportunity to protect our planet and support our community. "



Program Overview



Our Qualifications

- LEED Silver Certification
- Valley Forward Environmental Excellence Award
- Arizona Environmental Excellence Award Finalist
- Certified Sustainable Event Professional Staff

PCC Program Offerings

- Circular Economy & Waste Diversion
- Food Recovery & Hunger Relief
- Climate & Energy Efficiency
- Water Conservation & Biodiversity
- Engagement & Resources



Circular Economy & Waste Diversion

Why it Matters

Events generate massive amounts of single-use materials. Our goal is to divert waste from the landfill and keep materials in use longer through reuse, donation, and recycling.



Zero Waste Event Execution

- Super Bowl LVII Experience reached 92% diversion in 2023
- Final Four Fan Fest achieved a 94% waste diversion rate in 2024
- These results are driven by front- and back-of-house collaboration, clear signage, and client education



Reuseables & Material Recovery

- Reusable food service containers in the North Food Hall through our partner Bold Reuse
- 2,000 lbs of materials like signage, carpet, and décor repurposed in 2024
- Tote bags and planners created from upcycled street pole banners

How You Can Help

- Choose reusable or recyclable materials for your booth or exhibit
- Request our Green Event Checklist and diversion signage in advance
- Ask us how to donate leftover goods post-event



Donation Opportunities

- Guidance available to donate leftover decor, furniture, and building materials
- We connect clients with local organizations that welcome usable surplus



Food Recovery

Why it Matters

Food waste is one of the largest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, many in our community face food insecurity. We aim to bridge that gap.



Food Donation

- Over 56,000 lbs of packaged food and 11,000 lbs of prepared meals donated in 2024
- Our donation partnerships allow food that would otherwise be discarded to support local hunger relief efforts



Composting

- 68 tons of organic waste were composted in 2023 and 2024, keeping food scraps out of the landfill
- Our North Building Food Hall features front-of-house composting at all times
- Front-of-house composting bins are available upon request for events in any of our three buildings

How You Can Help

- Request leftover catered food be packaged for donation
- Choose compostable or reusable service ware and work with us to provide compost bins



Climate & Energy Efficiency

Why it Matters

Venues consume a significant amount of energy, especially when hosting thousands of guests. We've invested in upgrades to shrink our footprint while maintaining comfort and performance.



LED Lighting

- Complete retrofit of all meeting rooms, halls, and common areas
- Recognized by the Department of Energy for energy efficiency leadership
- In 2024, this project resulted in \$560,000 and 3.8 million kWh in cost and energy savings



Green Power

- Select events (Final Four, WNBA) powered through renewable energy via RECs
- Clients can work with us to explore renewable options for their event footprint



Sustainability Dashboard

- Public platform tracking our progress in energy use, water consumption, waste diversion, and donations



Biodiversity & Conservation

Why it Matters

We're in a desert city. Water is precious, and so is the local ecosystem. We prioritize practices that preserve both.



Monarch Butterfly Waystation

- Certified garden installed to support monarch migration and native pollinators
- Filled with drought-tolerant, nectar-rich plants that support local biodiversity



Xeriscaping

- Outdoor spaces and landscaping designed and maintained using water-conserving techniques like drought-tolerant plants and minimal irrigation



How You Can Help

- Encourage attendees to use reusable bottles at our water refill stations across campus
- Minimize water usage in exhibits and encourage water-efficient practices beyond the PCC



Engagement & Resources

Why it Matters

Sustainable events don't happen by accident—they're the result of intentional planning, clear communication, and shared goals.



Sustainability Tours

- Available to client groups and visitors
- Showcases what's happening behind the scenes at the PCC to create sustainable events



Green Event Checklist

- A planning tool to help clients, decorators, and vendors align with our best practices
- Covers waste, energy, food recovery, and communications



On-Site Support

- Our sustainability program coordinator is available to walk through your event plans
- We can recommend signage, sourcing ideas, and post-event reporting



How You Can Help

- Request the checklist when planning your event
- Promote your sustainability efforts to attendees and exhibitors
- Let us know what tools or data you'd like post-event to measure your impact



Contact Us



602-262-6225



Sustainability Request Form



phoenixconventioncenter.com/sustainability