

Tourism Holdings

Target Sustainability Programme

About the Company

Tourism Holdings' principal activity is rental of motor homes and cars through three brands: Maui, Britz and Backpacker Rentals. The Christchurch site undertakes a range of operational activities including administration, laundry washing, dishwashing, vehicle washing, panel beating, vehicle maintenance and vehicle storage.

Introduction to the Project

Tourism Holdings joined the Christchurch City Council Target Sustainability Programme in 2009. The Target Sustainability Programme supports business to reduce waste and to be energy and water efficient.

Tourism Holdings main objective at the time of joining the programme was to reduce waste sent to landfill and become more energy efficient. Tourism Holdings implemented a range of projects to reduce their waste sent to landfill and improve their energy and water efficiency.

Waste Reduction Initiatives

Tourism Holdings has reduced its waste sent to landfill by 59.8% per year saving over \$6,000 per year in waste removal costs.

Tourism Holdings implemented the following initiatives to recycle their waste:

- Extended existing recycling systems for paper, cardboard, glass, cans, plastic and polystyrene.
- Introduced a quality control system whereby all skips and bins are reviewed regularly to sort recyclables that have been mistakenly put into general waste.
- Implemented waste collection systems for guests to use when unloading motor homes, complete with easy to reference colours and images for local and foreign guests.
- Implemented waste collection systems in staff areas and introduced regular reporting to advise staff on current progress in achieving improved recycling performance.
- Implemented a food waste collection system to send this waste for composting.
- Implemented a waste oil recycling collection system. Waste oil is collected and used as an energy source for a bitumen plant.
- Implemented an oily rag recycling collection system. Oily rags are collected and used as an energy source for a bitumen plant.
- Implemented a scrap metal recycling collection system.
- Implemented a vehicle filter recycling collection system. The filters are collected as part of the scrap metal collection.

Key Achievements

Over the past three years Tourism Holdings has:

- **Reduced waste sent to landfill by 59.8% (43 tonnes) per year**
- **Increased co-mingled recycling quantities (bottles/cans/plastics) by 39.3% (4.81 tonnes) per year**
- **Reduced electricity use by an estimated 13% per year saving an estimated 33,000kWh (\$6,700) per year**



Tourism Holdings Memorial Avenue site © Copyright



Recycling area adjacent to the vehicle drop off © Copyright



Waste sorting in staff room © Copyright

Energy Efficiency Initiatives

Tourism Holdings reduced its electricity use by 13% per year saving an estimated 33,000kWh (\$6,700) per year.

Tourism Holdings implemented the following initiatives to increase their energy efficiency:

- Used low energy bulbs where possible in the main reception area, replacing existing incandescent bulbs, which delivered an estimated saving of \$1,970 per year.
- Reduced hot water usage for internal vehicle cleaning by using steam cleaners to clean motor homes and cars – an estimated energy saving of \$0.20 per vehicle wash on average, (averaged across motor homes and cars), and an estimated saving of \$4,700 per year. Although the steam cleaners cost electricity to operate, they use 75% less hot water per wash by using hot water in a more effective manner, thereby offering considerable energy savings.



Staff recycling notice board © Copyright

Water Efficiency Initiatives

Tourism Holdings implemented the following initiative to increase their water efficiency:

- Reduced cleaning water use by using steam cleaners for internally cleaning vehicles instead of buckets of water – an estimated 75% saving of water use per internal vehicle clean, and an estimated saving of 271,000m³ of water per year. This estimate is based on previously using two buckets (18 litres) of hot water per internal vehicle clean compared to using 4.5 litres of hot water per vehicle being steam cleaned. Steam cleaners use 75% less water per clean by using water in a more effective manner – the total savings have been estimated based on the number of vehicle movements through Tourism Holdings per year.



Steam cleaner used to reduce energy and water usage for cleaning vehicles © Copyright

Summary

Since joining the Target Sustainability Programme, Tourism Holdings has implemented a range of projects that have resulted in a significant reduction in waste sent to landfill and an improvement in energy and water efficiency.

“Participating in the Target Sustainability Programme has proved invaluable by helping us identify areas in the business where measurable processes and efficiencies can be implemented at our current site as well as being able to be incorporated into the planning of our new depot.” Robyn Anderson, Christchurch Manager.

Tourism Holdings’ future plans are to continue to look for ways to reduce and recycle their waste and to implement further energy and water efficiency projects within their future new-build depot.

Want more information?

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