

THE BROWN = GREEN

At the **George R. Brown Convention Center**, we are committed to being green, and have long recognized the importance of sustainability efforts. We began seeking opportunities to reduce our carbon footprint in 1998 and haven't stopped since!

We first earned **LEED Silver certification** status in 2011, and have since renewed from 2017 through 2021. We divert more than **42%** of our waste from landfills, and are dedicated to high sustainability standards.

From food banks to local schools, we regularly partner with local organizations to recycle, reduce and reuse waste from events, ensuring that our commitment to sustainability benefits not only our environment, but also our community.



Our Awards & Certifications

Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center earned LEED Silver certification for an existing building in 2011 and renewed the certification in 2017 through 2021. The certification requires GRB operations to save energy, minimize water usage, reduce CO2 emissions, recycle waste materials and maintain high standards for indoor environmental quality and operate the building as efficiently as possible.



For more in depth information regarding all of our Green Initiatives please visit www.GRBHouston.com



Houston GREEN

KEEPING



Sustainability Initiatives

Lights Out Houston - In an effort to protect our local wildlife, Houston First Corporation teamed up with the Texas Conservation Alliance to join in their "Lights Out for Wildlife" initiative by dimming all non-essential lighting during the peak of spring migration for birds.

Farmshelf Hydro Gardens - On level 2 of the GRB and level 3 of the tasting kitchen, reside three Farmshelf microgreen grow boxes that contain items, such as vegetables, herbs, and edible flowers. This produce is then used to prepare meals for client showings and special events providing a true farm-to-table experience.

The GRBees at Rusk Balcony - The GRB teamed up with its hospitality partner, Levy to implement another green initiative - the #GRBees. Since 2018, guests have been able to view the facility's garden of bee colonies from a second-floor balcony. The colonies were installed as part of the GRB's commitment to sustainability and a way to introduce local products - in the forms of dressings, sauces, and dessert items - to clients, guests, and visitors.

Food Donating & Composting - The GRB has a longstanding history of donating all leftover food from banquets, conferences, or events to local shelters and food banks around the city.

Levy, the catering partner, also reduces food waste by using excess food for employee meals and composting food scraps.



Recycling - Our employees, partners and tenants participate in recycling efforts inside and outside GRB - bins are clearly marked for paper, trash, organic and plastic/aluminum.

The GRB also participates in electronic recycling & reuse of computers, monitors, cell phones, printers and supplies.

Partnerships - We are pleased to have the **City of Houston Building Materials Reuse Warehouse** as a sustainability donation partner and **Magpies & Peacocks** as a recycle partner.

The Reuse Warehouse benefits the community by providing space for excess building materials that would otherwise be dumped in local landfills.

Magpies & Peacocks is a Non-Profit Design House has collected over 145 tons of post-consumer textiles and accessories since 2011. 25% of the donated items are used to supply materials to local schools, colleges and extracurricular programs, the balance is repaired, reworked or up-cycled into new collections for sale.

Think Green! Blog - Internal blog used to share information with staff on sustainability initiatives and partners.

Topics include but are not limited to:

- Earth Day
- Stop Food Waste Day
- Bike to Work Day

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