

## CROWN ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

[www.crowncasino.com.au](http://www.crowncasino.com.au)

As Australia's largest entertainment complex comprising a casino, three hotels, restaurants, function space, retail outlets and numerous other venues, Crown is very conscious about the impact its operations have on the environment, both at the present time and for future generations.

Crown's environmental sustainability commitment focuses on three key pillars – water, waste and energy. Crown's plan is to ensure it reduces its impact on the environment by implementing water conservation initiatives, waste reduction programs and energy efficiency projects that make real, lasting contributions.

### Water Management

- In 2003, Crown undertook one year of engineering design to custom-build the first reverse osmosis application of its kind. The reverse osmosis technology means that 30% of the bleed water from the air-conditioning cooling towers, big water users in any complex, is now re-directed across the complex for use in landscaping and employee toilet facilities
- Crown has reduced its water consumption by nearly 20% since 2005. This equates to saving nearly 50 Olympic-sized swimming pools. This has been achieved through various means including shutting down all external water features (including the popular dancing fountain along the Yarra River side), adopting leading edge technologies, and adherence to an approved Water Management Plan. Adhering to strict Victorian Government Water Restrictions, there is also scope for further savings, and a 'Greening Crown' audit is underway to identify additional energy and water saving opportunities
- Crown has received two grants for environmentally sustainable water projects
- Crown is one of Victoria's top 200 water users and is genuinely concerned about water conservation and has implemented a five-way approach to Water Management. The Crown 'Save Water Wheel's' 5 steps' enables us to measure, reduce, collect and recycle our precious water resources. And finally by talking about how we conserve water, Crown is assisting other organisations to think about how they too can have an impact
- At Crown Towers, the hotel's laundry has reduced its laundry water consumption by 20 million litres of water per year
- Crown Towers has water-saving, flow-restrictor shower heads which do not affect the guest experience.

Crown's commitment to water conservation stretches beyond

the things it is doing today and into the future. Through technology and education, it has set ambitious goals for the future to ensure its record achievement in water conservation continues to lead the industry.

### Waste Management

- Nearly 40% (or 3,000 tonnes) of waste (cardboard, glass, aluminium, steel, PET) is recycled every year. This figure has increased significantly, by approximately 25%, in the past three years and as new technologies are introduced, so too are opportunities to recycle more and more daily waste
- In addition to garbage and paper waste, 500 tonnes of food organics are recovered from landfill to natural recovery (or composting) each year; a welcome food source for the city's struggling gardens
- Crown currently sends up to 400 tonnes of food waste per year to a composting plant in Dandenong - this composted waste is then used in local farming and rural areas
- Crown is a Sustainability Victoria certified Silver Waste Wise Business. In order to be considered eligible for this certification, Crown must make significant moves to reduce waste, following the 5 Waste Wise steps:
  1. Commitment
  2. Developing an action plan
  3. Implementing the action plan
  4. Monitoring and reporting the results
  5. Building on this experience in order to continually improve.

### Organic Compost

Crown has worked with its restaurants to introduce a collection capability that would enable it to collect food scraps and turn them into organic compost. Crown compost is used in farming and landscaping across Australia.

### The future of Waste Management

There are more opportunities for composting and to increase Crown's recycling effort by influencing the supply chain with the support of business partners. Crown has commenced on this ambitious journey and the results will be significant.

### Energy Management

- Energy efficiency is also a high priority. Crown has already conducted a sustainability workshop in 2007 bringing together its consulting engineers, energy partners and government representatives to generate ideas for energy conservation. The identification and assessment phase of the Federal Government's Energy Efficiencies Opportunities program is also well underway

- Crown operates a gas fired tri-generation plant on site. The plant provides electricity to service the main complex and provide emergency power back-up. It saves around 25,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases each year. That equates to taking approximately 6,000 cars off the road every year. Gas fired generation is a much cleaner source of electricity than coal
- The tri-generation plant has saved over 250,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions since Crown Melbourne opened in 1997. Energy efficient lighting is also now a feature of the complex. Ongoing installation of LED lighting is today reducing energy consumption across the property. It is proactively involved and compliant with the Australian government's Energy Efficiency Opportunities (EEO) program and the Victorian Government's Environment Resource Efficiency Plan (EREP)
- Crown's roadmap to energy efficiency showcases the things it has done and is planning to do. Energy efficiency opportunities have been identified and optimising Crown's building systems will contribute even more savings
- Many visitors to Crown ask about how much energy is used by the promenade's iconic gas brigades. The gas brigades represent 1.05% of Crown's annual energy consumption and less than half a percent of greenhouse emissions
- The gas brigades are highly energy efficient as the gas is released through air actuated valves which are precisely controlled and monitored by computers located within the complex's control room. The computers only allow the required amount of gas to flow to the burners for each three minute show which operates from dusk until midnight.

### **Accolades Received**

- Featured industry case study in South East Water's 2006 Annual Report
- Sustainability Victoria certified Silver Waste Wise Business
- Finalist in the 2007 Savewater! Awards.

### **Other**

See the Crown and the environment page [www.crownenvironment.com.au](http://www.crownenvironment.com.au).

