

Pennsylvania Convention Center Sustainability Report 2022



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About This Report

The Pennsylvania Convention Center is mindful of its responsibility to the community and environment and is committed to publicly reporting on its sustainability goals, visions, and initiatives on an annual basis. The 2022 Sustainability Report covers the operations at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, relative to environmental sustainability, for the 2022 calendar year. The Pennsylvania Convention Center's sustainability performance is mainly affected by factors related to event activity, such as event size, event type, and the time of year. Seasonal weather patterns and energy efficiency also play a contributing role.



Leadership Message

As a state-of-the-art facility, the Pennsylvania Convention Center is unwavering in its commitment to sustainability.

In this past year, we have continued to incorporate the use of equipment and products that are designed to reduce negative environmental impacts, while providing a healthy, clean, and welcoming facility for all our guests.

Taking this commitment a step further and recognizing the important role that technology plays in sustainability, we have also worked closely with Siemens, one of our key partners, on our latest modernization and decarbonization initiatives. These projects have allowed the Center to digitally transform the facility's operations and efficiently manage its energy consumption. As a result, the Pennsylvania Convention Center continues to be an industry leader in innovation and is a stronger resource for our customers who collaborate with the facility on their shows' sustainability efforts.

Our emphasis on sustainability and environmental management, has positioned the Center as a first choice for meeting planners, many of whom consider a venue's ability to "go green" as critical to the success of their event. The Center's expertise in sustainability and upgraded systems, allow us to be a trusted partner to our customers and deliver green events with positive and tangible results.

Looking forward, as a steward of the public good, the Pennsylvania Convention Center will continue to prioritize sustainability, as we do our part to preserve the environment for future generations and improve the quality of life for the communities in which we serve.



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Chair of the Board

Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority



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Sustainability at the Pennsylvania Convention Center

Overview

Located in the heart of downtown Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Convention Center is one of the few convention centers that is uniquely woven into the city's landscape. This location provides visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in and enjoy the full cultural, culinary, historical, and retail experiences of the city, all within walking distance of the Center.

As one of the nation's premier meeting and convention facilities and a main economic driver in Philadelphia's hospitality and tourism industry, the Pennsylvania Convention Center offers more than 1 million square-feet of saleable meeting spaces, one of the largest ballrooms in the Northeast, and advanced technology.

Under the management of world-class facility operator ASM Global, the Center and its staff host approximately 250 events a year, ranging from international conventions to regional company retreats and services.

Our goal is to serve as an industry leader in environmental program implementation through strategic partnerships with our team members, customers, organization partners, and communities.

Sustainability Partners

Green Team – The Green Team at the Pennsylvania Convention Center is an employee network of staff from the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority and ASM Global, stakeholders, and service partners. Since its inception in 2016, the Green Team has improved and broadened the Center's sustainability best practices.

Siemens – Siemens, has been a long-standing partner to the Pennsylvania Convention Center and has worked on several projects that have positioned the Center as a leader in sustainability innovation and technology.

Republic Services – Since the opening of the Convention Center in 1993, Republic Services has been our partner for recycling and waste management at the Center. Through this partnership, the facility has a robust and efficient recycling program.

Honeycomb Strategies – Honeycomb Strategies has been a key partner to ASM Global, providing guidance on sustainability best practices that ensure the Pennsylvania Convention Center remains current in its sustainability efforts.



Sustainability at the Pennsylvania Convention Center

ASM Global

ASM Global, a leader in environmental sustainability, is committed to reducing its environmental impact and driving business value. The company believes that its broad venue network and deep guest engagement uniquely position it to raise public awareness about environmental sustainability issues.

Today, ASM Global venues around the world track monthly environmental performance metrics related to greenhouse gas emissions, water consumption and waste reduction.

In October 2021, ASM Global launched ASM Global Acts, a corporate social responsibility platform, to centralize the company's philanthropic endeavors focused on sustainability, diversity, and community outreach.



Guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, ASM Global uses the new platform to further the company's goals of creating a better workplace, a more diverse workforce, serving the communities where it operates, and being an effective steward of the environment.

Based on those principles, ASM Global will establish annual targets and actively measure its progress towards achieving those goals.

As part of this program, the Pennsylvania Convention Center was selected as one of ASM Global's flagship facilities to participate in the "Protecting the Environment" initiatives for 2022.



Our 2022 Impact and Performance

Diversion Rate

Exceeded our 2022 diversion rate for event bookings goal of 50%, by achieving **60%** at the end of the year.

Eliminated the use of plastic straws.



Achieved **GBAC STAR** reaccreditation and started the application process for the Events Industry Council Sustainable Venue Standards.



Carbon Footprint

Encouraged alternative forms of transportation among staff.



Renewable Energy Certificates

From July 2022, we increased the Green energy electricity renewable energy certificate (REC) purchase from 25% to **50%**.



Sustainable Events

Plan of Operations Overview

The Pennsylvania Convention Center works with meeting planners to successfully host sustainable events.

The Center's staff will work with the event representatives' team to identify sustainable goals for the show and will collaborate with organizers to execute the sustainability initiatives required to achieve these goals.

Additionally, recycling and energy reporting can be tracked for events that request this deliverable.

Further Information about the Pennsylvania Convention Center's green initiatives can be found in the Plan of Operations.



Natural Products Expo East 2022

The Pennsylvania Convention Center was pleased to host the Natural Products Expo East (NPEE) 2022 in September 2022. This was the second consecutive year that NPEE held its trade show at the Center.



For months leading up to the event, the PCCA/ASM Global Green Team worked closely with show management to expertly facilitate the NPEE Sustainability Plan. As part of the plan, the Center provided waste diversion and utilities management and reporting for the duration of event.

A pre-shift meeting was held with the Center's operations team, show management, the show's cleaning services provider, and Republic Services, to review the final plan for recycling and sorting.

During the event, staff also participated in pre-event meetings and daily operational meetings, to reinforce the elements of the event's sustainability plan.



Sustainable Events

NPEE Waste Diversion

The Center's waste diversion initiatives were enforced for Natural Products Expo East. These included recycling, composting, and landfilling. A critical element for the successful execution of the show's sustainability strategy was the development of a loading dock plan with designated recycling, construction and demolition, landfill, cardboard, and compost stream locations.

Temporary signage was installed to guide attendees on the correct disposal of their waste and 55-gallon brute containers with cardboard recycling wraps were used to collect front of house recycling.

The Center partnered with Republic Services to provide waste management, recycling

and hauling services for the show. The Center's

operations team worked in conjunction with the show's contracted cleaners to provide pre and post event cleaning services. Overall, NPEE 2022 diverted 71.63% of their waste from landfill.

NPEE Utilities

For the NPEE 2022, the Center monitored electricity, natural gas, and water usage for the duration of the show. Information will be consolidated for an energy usage report for show management.

We enjoyed hosting Natural Products Expo East in 2022 and are proud of our Green Team members and their achievements.



Team and Community Engagement

Throughout the year, the Pennsylvania Convention Center participated in several local and national sustainability awareness initiatives.

Earth Week 2022

The Pennsylvania Convention Center celebrated Earth week during the week of April 18, 2022.

Part of the Earth week celebrations included the commemoration of Earth Day on April 22, 2022.

Green Team Pin Drop

The Pennsylvania Convention Center celebrated its refreshed Green Team logo with leadership distributing new Green Team pins to PCC staff on June 10, 2022. The pins represent the team's commitment to the Center's sustainability initiatives.



Doing Business with the PCC Event

The Pennsylvania Convention Center hosted the Doing Business Event on December 7, 2022 with prime, subcontracting, and diverse vendors to develop relationships for future collaborations.

Lights Out Philly

Lights Out is a national program with more than 32 participating cities. The "Lights Out Philly" Bird Safety program was launched in spring 2021 and the Pennsylvania Convention Center was proud to once again participate in this initiative.

As a participant, the Center reduced its lighting schedule for the migratory seasons (April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to November 15) between 12 am and 6 am.



2022 Projects

ESCO Project

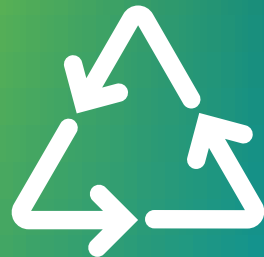
The Energy Services Company (ESCO) project with the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority (PCCA), in partnership with SIEMENS completed its building automation upgrade this past year to the DESIGO software system. Graphics for the project were customized for the Center which improve efficiency and HVAC operations

Capital Projects

In 2022, the Pennsylvania Convention Center's capital program consisted of upgrades to the facility including phases three and four of restroom renovations, escalator modernization, ballroom upgrades, and carpet and equipment replacement. The Convention Center required its capital project contractors to recycle construction and demolition (C&D) materials and retired equipment.

Asset Recycling Project

In 2022, the Pennsylvania Convention Center collected retired assets, such as old lighting fixtures, printers, electrical parts, monitor screens, box speakers, computer, and laptop devices, for Electronic and Universal Waste (EW and UW) recycling.



100.62 Tons

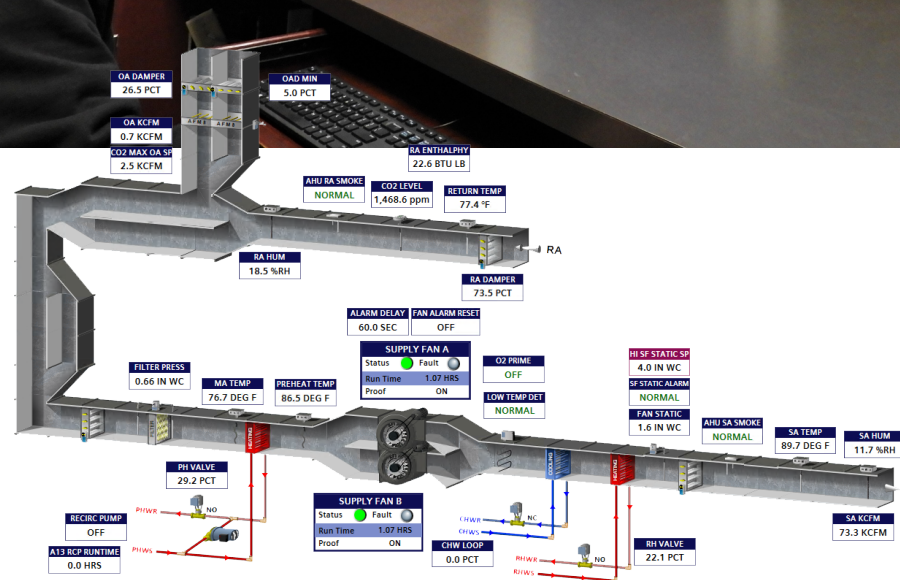
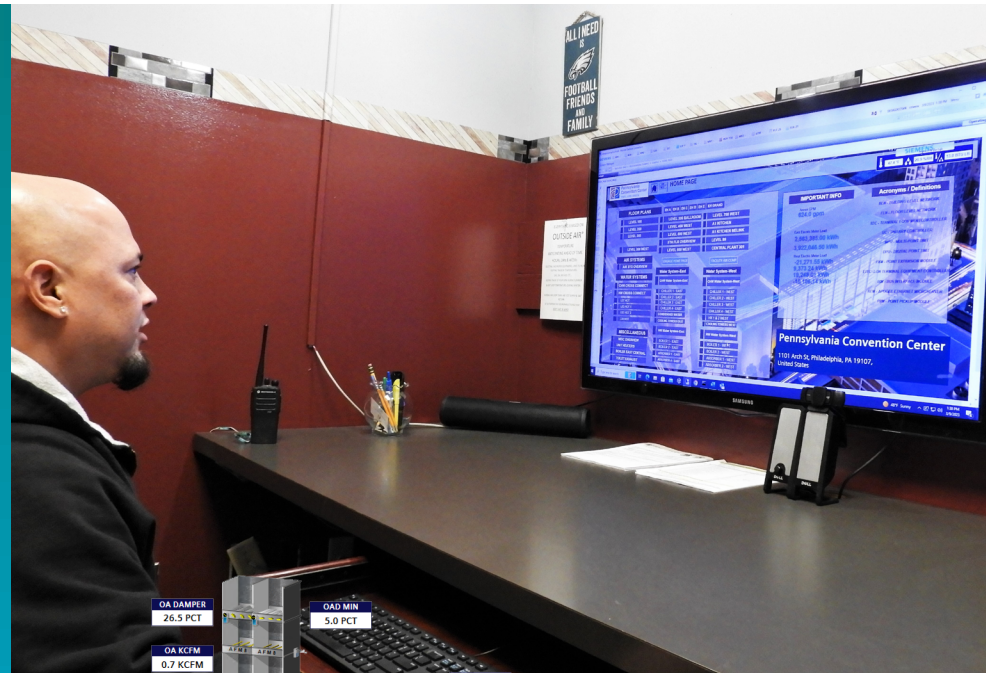
of C&D material from renovation construction projects, including restroom renovations, carpet replacement and ballroom upgrades, were recycled.

10.38 Tons

of E-waste and U-waste were collected and shrink wrapped for pickup and transport to the recycling facility.

13.45 Tons

of retired furniture assets, including chairs, tables, and event setup equipment, were collected for transport to the C&D recycling facility.



Utility Usage and Performance

The utility demand at the Pennsylvania Convention Center is subject to variations in occupancy and the number of events held at the Center. The Center's engineering staff contribute to utility efficiency by scheduling HVAC and lighting needs for our clients to match their specific program requirements.

The main utility types that are used at the Center are electricity, natural gas, and water.

Electricity

Electricity usage decreased 13.2% in 2022 as compared to 2019*.

Green Energy

In 2022, the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority and ASM Global entered into a retail electricity supply agreement through which 50% of all electricity supplied to the Convention Center is provided from Green-e® certified renewable energy sources, in this case, wind energy. One renewable energy credit (REC) represents the environmental benefit of producing one megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity with a renewable energy source. This doubled the percentage of renewable energy, previously at 25%, coming from Green-e® certified sources to the Center.

Demand Response

The Pennsylvania Convention Center participates in a "demand response" program, which aims to lower electricity consumption during high usage days. In the summer months, the increased electricity load due to air conditioning overwhelms the power grid and can cause brown and black outs.

Through financial incentives, large scale users of electricity are asked to cut down on electricity usage during key hours of peak usage days. The Pennsylvania Convention Center's enrollment for 2022 was less due to seasonality and fewer events. There were three events for 2022 with a total curtailment of 5,367 kilowatt hours.

Natural Gas

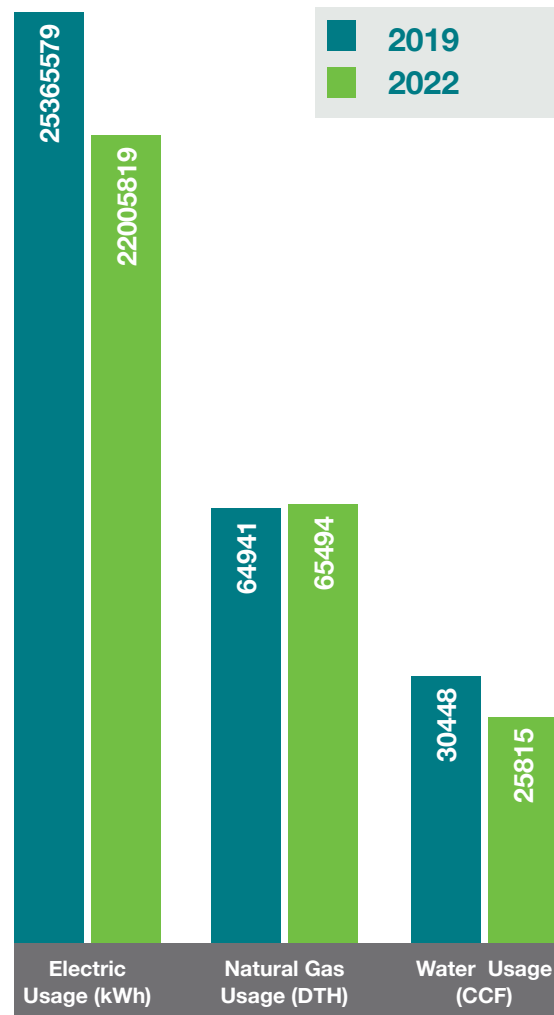
The natural gas usage in 2022 had a relatively flat trend as compared to 2019, with an increase of 1% in 2022. This was due to a colder than normal end of the year in December 2022.

Water

Water usage also decreased by 13.2% in 2022 as compared to 2019, with a similar trend as the Center's electricity usage.

2022 utility performance was compared to usage data from 2019 since the Covid-19 pandemic significantly affected the Center's 2020 and 2021 business levels, resulting in a lower than average energy consumption.

Utility Usage Comparisons



Cleaning and Purchasing

The Pennsylvania Convention Center's cleaning and purchasing decisions aim to decrease the environmental impact of maintaining the facility while promoting a healthy indoor environment. This includes reducing packaging, recycling, and purchasing materials that have sustainable qualities.

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) is affected by the products used at the Pennsylvania Convention Center. The Center focuses on only using products and equipment that do not emit toxic compounds that become part of the occupants' breathing space.

The Center's Sustainable Purchasing Policy sets purchasing practices and minimum standards for all purchases, whenever possible. The policy covers all purchases necessary for the facility including office supplies, furniture, electronics, lighting, and cleaning products.



The Pennsylvania Convention Center's food and beverage partner, ARAMARK, also places a priority on sustainability, which guides their operation's purchasing decisions. In 2022, 45% of ARAMARK'S Diversey cleaning products were Eco-friendly; and 88% of the disposable serve-ware used was compostable.



Sustainability Training

On September 1, 2022, the Pennsylvania Convention Center conducted its annual training for the Operations and Food and Beverage departments, to review the sustainability requirements, goals, and green events.

Leadership started the training by sharing important messages about sustainability, as it relates to our customers, community, and staff. Republic Services, our partner in landfill diversion, spoke about our year-to-date performance and the ways in which we are preparing for the fall event season.



2023 Sustainability Goals

Expand procurement documentation.

Complete EIC venue certification process

Implement the eliminate foamcore campaign.

Implement kitchen digester reporting.

Host a “Doing Business with the PCC” event on sustainability.

Expand donation tracking.

Implement the synchronized research market demand response program.

Work towards achieving the ASM Global goals to become the world's most sustainable collection of venues.

ASM Global **Acts**



Pennsylvania
Convention Center
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