

Green Initiatives



 **Huntington**
Convention
Center of Cleveland

Levy

www.clevelandconventions.com

TheDesign

Meetings happen all over the country, but at the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland, we live and breathe green. We welcome you to experience our comprehensive sustainability plan supported by an eco-friendly design.

So, what's so green about our Center?

Certified & Committed

With a commitment to conserve resources, implement recycling initiatives, and use eco-friendly practices, our Center was built to LEED Gold standards and operates at the same level, proudly holding the LEED Gold Certification. We are also a participant in the Cleveland 2030 District, which is a movement dedicated to building new, high-performance districts that reduce environmental impact.

Utilizing Natural Resources

With a 4-acre green roof, the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland was thoughtfully designed to harness the earth's geothermal and insulating qualities, which naturally minimize heat loss and improve energy efficiency. The green roof also helps reduce combined sewer overflow while providing a unique space for recreation and social interaction. Inside, the Atrium building features floor to ceiling windows, and every meeting room includes natural light, reducing the need for artificial lighting throughout the day.

We Take Green Seriously

When we say green, we mean both literally and figuratively. Our Center lives under a 4-acre green rooftop that makes up our outdoor space (or as we call them - Malls B & C). The green roof not only exposes a breathtaking view of Lake Erie, but also reduces combined sewer overflow by incorporating plant life and solid materials that efficiently filter stormwater.

The Urban Garden

The Urban Garden, maintained by the Levy food and beverage team outside the Grand Ballroom, showcases plants, vegetables, and herbs, reflecting the commitment to responsibly sourced ingredients. Collaborating with local and organic farms, the Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland stands out among venues. The garden symbolizes a passion for a sustainable food system, with Levy's Convention Center Division dedicated to nourishing guests while promoting a healthier planet.



The Practices

You've Heard It. We've Done It.

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.

At our Center, we actively implement sustainable practices by placing recycle bins made from recycled milk jugs, using eco-friendly cleaning products, reducing in-house printing, eliminating plastic bottles with refill stations, donating items, and recycling badge holders.

The Urban Garden Buzz

Bees play a vital role in pollinating many of the fruits, vegetables, and flowers we rely on, making them essential to both our ecosystems and food supply. In our garden, we keep hives not only to support local bee populations but also to enjoy the natural benefits they bring. The bees help pollinate our plants, leading to healthier crops, and we're also able to harvest small amounts of honey, beeswax, and propolis from the hives—natural products we use in our vinaigrettes, sweet treats, and lip balm.

Donation Programs

We proudly partner with the Ed Keating Center and Stella Maris to share any food product that otherwise would be discarded off. We estimate that we donate over 3,000 lbs. each year! In addition, we partner with clients to donate materials left behind. In 2023, 10,000 lbs. were accumulated post-event and donated to numerous nonprofits like Habitat for Humanity.

Better Bottled Water

We are dedicated to moving away from single use bottled water in our facilities. Many alternative solutions can be seen spanning across Levy's Convention Center properties including using aluminum canned water. Additionally, Huntington Convention Center has eleven water refill stations that save over 57,000 plastic water bottles each year.

Grinding for Green

Our Center has an in-house Grind2Energy system that allows us to divert food scraps from landfills by grinding, storing, and removing them. The leftovers are then converted to energy, natural gas, electricity, and soil nutrients. The Grind2Energy program successfully converts enough gas and electricity to heat and power more than 20 homes for one month. The elimination of greenhouse gas emissions from this process is equivalent to more than 50,000 automobile miles.



EventSustainability

Best Practices for a Sustainable Event

Hosting a sustainable event is easier than you think. By incorporating a few environmentally conscious practices before, during, and after your event, you can help reduce waste and support a more sustainable future.

Before Your Event

When planning your event, consider the following sustainable practices:

- Minimize the use of linens when possible.
- Select food and beverage options that reduce or eliminate single-use containers.
- Use cardboard, paper, or digital signage instead of foam core whenever possible.
- Encourage attendees to bring and use reusable water bottles.
 - Reusable branded water bottles are available for purchase through Legends Global.

During Your Event

Help reduce your event's environmental impact by:

- Limiting utility usage whenever possible.
- Keeping lighting at the minimum level needed.
- Reducing HVAC and lighting usage during non-event hours.
- Limiting the number of occupied rooms to reduce lighting and energy consumption.
- Offering attendees and vendors to purchase Carbon Credits to help offset CO2 emissions through our partnership with Western Union Land Conservancy.
 - Ask your Sales Manager for more details on how this process works!

After Your Event

When planning for the end of your event, consider the following:

- Consider enforcing a Vendor Pack In/Pack Out Policy to ensure no items are left behind that may end up in a landfill.
- Rather than disposing of unused materials, consider donating or recycling them through one of our recommended partners. Speak with your Event Manager to see what option/s would be best.



OurPartners

Our Donation Partners

GoodsBank NEO

- Examples of accepted items include:
 - Event giveaways
 - Carpet rolls
 - Vendor promotional items
- Contact: info@goodsbankneo.org

Habitat for Humanity ReStore

- Examples of accepted items include:
 - Furniture
 - TVs
 - Shelving
 - Building materials (excluding carpet)
- Donation Information & Contact:
<https://clevelandhabitat.org/restore/donate.html>

Goodwill

- Accepts a wide variety of items
 - See their [Donation Guide](#) for details!
- Contact: Colleen Porter
 - Phone: 330-806-8946
 - Email: cporter@goodwillgoodskills.org

Ed Keating Center, Stella Maris, & The Greater Cleveland Food Bank

- Food items
 - Special arrangements need to be made in advance for perishable items.
- Connect with your Levy Sales Manager to help coordinate the best place to donate any leftover food items.

