


Environmental Leadership At Vermont Ski Areas

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Mount Mansfield Company, Inc. is committed to respecting the environment in the conduct of its business and recognizes the need to preserve and protect the vital natural resources of clean air, water and land. In order to fulfill its commitment to the environment, it is the policy of the company to:

1. Conduct its business activities in a responsible manner, in order to protect the health and safety of its employees, customers, the public and environment.
2. Comply with all applicable environmental laws and regulations.
3. Strive to reduce the creation of waste materials and, whenever and wherever practicable, to recycle materials.
4. Educate and train its employees to make environmental considerations a priority in planning and growth and thereby operate in an environmentally sound manner.
5. Provide effective environmental management at all levels and require that each employee implement and uphold this policy within his or her respective sphere of activity or responsibility.
6. Continue to self-evaluate processes and operations to assess compliance with internal and regulatory environmental requirements and the implementation of this policy.


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At Stowe they:

- Included their Environmental Policy Statement on Trail Maps printed on 20% PCC recycled paper.
- Established Mountain operations checklist for all construction projects to reduce risk of stormwater discharge to surface water.
- Eliminated a naptha-based parts washer with an aqueous, microbial parts washer that produces NO hazardous waste.
- Diesel engine preheater installed on snow making compressor, which produces a 10 % reduction in fuel usage and reduces air emissions.
- Purchase and use copy paper, towels, and trash bags with recycled fibers or resins.
- Native plant species used for all landscaping and streambank riparian restoration efforts on nearby river.
- Plans for wind turbine demonstration project.


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The Environmental Policy of Stratton Mountain:


- The environment is our No. 1 asset;
- As stewards of Stratton Mountain it is our policy to protect and enhance its natural state and its geographic surroundings;
- We endorse and will implement the environmental charter of the National Ski Areas Association;
- We apply the latest technology to ensure that nature and our resort co-exist in harmony;
- We engage the community to create a resort where economic vitality and environmental sustainability are in balance;
- We enhance the guest and employee experience in ways that reflect principles of environmental integrity and respect for Stratton Mountain's cultural heritage.

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In the spring of 2002 the Stratton Mountain Sports Center decided to reduce their use of Sodium Hyperchlorite, which was used to sanitize their 60,000 gallon indoor pool. Stratton was using about 8 gallons per week of 12% Sodium Hyperchlorite. By converting to an ionizer they have reduced chemical sanitizer use by upwards of 60%. The ionizer works by passing low voltage current through a silver/copper alloy electrode, which produces ions that attach to bacteria and algae in the water, bursting their cell membranes and thus preventing bacterial or algal growth.

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In 2000, Stratton spent \$250,000 to remove an old cobblestone Village Walkway and replace it with an innovative underground radiant heating system. The heated walkway helps protect upland streams and fish habitat by preventing the release of sand and salt into these sensitive and fragile ecosystems. In total, construction of the walkway has reduced the use of salt by approximately 1,500 pounds and they no longer need 63 tons of sand. With these reductions Stratton has reduced sediment and chemical loading to nearby surface waters. In addition, the project is estimated to have saved more than \$60,000 in fuel costs associated with the snow-removal activities of plows, backhoes and bucket loaders.



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Sugarbush, in Warren, Vermont has aggressively pursued its commitment to responsibly manage solid and hazardous waste. To deal with its solid wastes Sugarbush instituted a *Recycling-Plus!* program. This program allows staff and visitors to recycle all glass, aluminum, tin, some plastics, newspaper, corrugated cardboard, newspaper, magazines, and all redeemables. In addition, Sugarbush's program incorporates composting toilets at Sugarbush South's mid-mountain facility. These toilets, installed in February of 1992, have saved approximately 1,000,000 gallons of water to date. In addition, the composting toilets required no environmental disturbance for leach fields or holding tanks. The toilets take human waste and create an organic compost-like end product.

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Our Values:

- "To support and strengthen our communities through the balanced growth of our resort, the enhancement of our environment and the cultural, educational, and social opportunities available in our region." -from Killington Ltd. *Mission Statement*
- "We believe that we have a responsibility to our community and our environment. We will work together with our community, balancing growth with preservation of our unique areas." -from ASC Resorts' *Core Values*

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The Principles are meant to go "beyond compliance" in those areas where improvements make environmental sense and are economically feasible. Killington already meets the applicable federal, state, and local environmental requirements. Through these Principles, we are striving to improve overall environmental performance, whether it be in the form of achieving efficiencies, sustaining resources or enhancing the public's awareness of our special environment.

The Principles adopt the "avoid, minimize, mitigate" approach to natural resource management. Avoidance is the first consideration when outstanding natural resources or settings are at stake.

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Creative and innovative solutions to wastewater disposal:
-Killington uses recycled, non-potable wastewater in toilets and urinals through Killington's "Blue Water System". This method saves up to 35,000 gallons per day of potable water during peak seasonal periods. The amount of water that Killington conserves, on an annual basis, is approximately 2.5 million gallons by using the recycled wastewater system.

Wastewater is first treated to quality wastewater standards at Killington's wastewater treatment facility. Using a separate piping system dedicated solely to flush water, a portion of the treated wastewater is recycled first to a 100,000 gallon storage tank, then to the three main base lodges as needed. Before entering a dedicated plumbing system for distribution for flushing, it is dyed blue and chlorinated. After being used in the flush system, the blue water is returned to the water treatment plant for full treatment processing and is recycled back to the lodges.

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Killington also:

- Installs propane rather than wood burning fireplaces.
- Provides employees with free shuttle transit to the mountain and subsidizes shuttles or busses for guest transportation.
- Composts food service wastes (In one year of the program alone, Killington sent 18,53 tons of solid food waste to the Rutland County Solid Waste District for composting rather than sending these materials to the landfill.
- Retrofits existing incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent and LED lighting
- Safely uses, stores, and disposes of potentially hazardous materials in accordance with Killington's policies and procedures for on-site Handling and Disposal of Hazardous materials.

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In the heart of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, situated on 140 acres, is a year-round resort accommodating up to 90 guests in 2 lodges and 4 cottages on beautiful Lake Hosmer. The Center offers a sauna and fitness facility; swimming, kayaking, and sculling; and mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing on 60 miles of maintained trails.



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CRAFTSBURY
OUTDOOR CENTER

The Craftsbury Outdoor Center is currently working to be recognized as a Vermont Business Environmental Partner. They have already...

- Replaced one snowmobile with a new 4-stroke snow machine that gets used in the trail grooming operations.
- Donate Pre- and Post-Plate food waste to a local farmer to be used for pig food.
- Invested in a new energy-efficient step boilers for heating/hot water in Tamarack Lodge.
- Committed to the use of EcoLab Geosystem 9000 dishwashing chemicals and dispensing system in the kitchen.
- Instituted bulk purchasing of (in some cases) local food stuffs and now purchase and serve Fair Trade Organic Coffee.
- Begun practicing Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) of many cleaning chemicals.
- Developed recycling stations throughout the Center of cardboard, paper, plastic, glass, and tin.
- Planned investment in a twin-hulled watercraft propelled by solar-charged batteries and electric direct drive propulsion system (for the sculling instructor).
- Planned investment and use of more fuel-efficient passenger vans for transporting staff and guests.
- Instituted a towel reuse program to reduce laundry-related chemical and resource use.

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