

Environmental Initiatives at Smugglers' Notch, Vermont

Tom McGrail, Smugglers' Notch
January 7, 2003

Senior Management Commitment

Smugglers' Notch Resort, Jeffersonville, VT



"At Smugglers', we are not interested in mere window dressing environmental programs -- the type of warm, fuzzy, feel-good type of programs designed for public relations purposes. It is clear that to pollute the environment would be to destroy the very product we market; the natural beauty and cleanliness of the Vermont environment."

-- William Stritzler, CEO

Smuggs' Environmental Charter



Smugglers' Notch Resort Management and Employees are committed to being responsible stewards of Vermont's natural resources. Vermont's intrinsic beauty and healthfulness are integral to our business. We live here, and working to maintain it comes naturally.

Smugglers' policy of environmental stewardship pervades all of our activities. We seek to raise the environmental awareness of guests and employees, and to broaden their knowledge and appreciation through educational programs along with our active and passive use of the land for year-round recreation.

Our development and maintenance programs are guided by principles of land and energy conservation, by forest and wildlife habitat preservation, and by maintaining Vermont's water quality and aesthetic beauty.

We are committed to reusing, recycling and treating waste through innovative techniques in a concerted effort to minimize impact on the environment.

Together we will shape a sustainable community for the future.

Accomplishments



At Smugglers' Notch we...

- Have developed and follow a comprehensive Environmental Management Plan (tracking baseline data for resource use),
- Use the most efficient compressors for snowmaking available,
- Recycle and compost many materials, including construction scrap material (for example, 5.8 tons of sheet rock in 1998),
- Build to Energy Rated Homes of Vermont Five Star specifications, and
- Use a living machine wastewater pre-treatment system and use bullhead catfish as part of the sewage treatment process.

Awards/Recognition Programs



Efficiency Vermont: Vermont EnergyStar Homes "Best of the Best Award" First Place for Multi-Family Homes in 2002.



Smugglers Notch was recognized as a Vermont Business Environmental Partner by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources in 2001 and will be recognized as an Environmental Leader by the Agency in 2003.

Awards/Recognition (cont.)



Vermont Ski Areas Association: recognized Smugglers' as its Environmental Resort of the Month in November 2001.



Vermont Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence in Pollution Prevention: in 1998 and again in 2002.

Environmental Stewardship



In response to a self-initiated Regional Black Bear Monitoring study conducted in 2001, Smugglers' established a conservation easement on 100 acres of their property to protect a travel corridor and includes seasonal restrictions on maintenance and hiking activities in this area.



Contact Information

For Additional Information, please contact:

Tom McGrail
Smugglers' Notch
(802) 644-1204
tmcgrail@smuggs.com