

BEAR MOUNTAIN GOLF RESORT

Green beyond the Greens

Green is a multi-faceted word at Bear Mountain Resort with the course greens and resort operations managed with a keen environmental awareness. Focusing on improvements in the areas of energy and water conservation, waste management and local wildlife.

A member of the Audubon Sanctuary Program through Audubon International, Bear Mountain Resort has the goal of becoming a certified Audubon sanctuary golf course in the future. For regular maintenance, the Bear Mountain greens team uses a combination of organic and standard fertilizers, implementing a 'spoon feeding' fertilizing program to greens, tees and fairways, which means applying liquid fertilizer more frequently by spraying directly to the plant. This special technique eliminates any chance of leaching or runoff. An environmental monitor was hired to test the waters four times a year on both courses, in the seven years of operating the resort has never had a negative result. Additionally, Bear Mountain has developed an integrated pest management program and does not use any insecticides.

Bear Mountain's greens crew has worked to create and preserve wildlife habitats in and around the golf courses, choosing to retain specific dead trees, turning them into natural wildlife habitats for resident birds, instead of having them removed. Wildlife corridors and brush piles were created for all of our small animals. These corridors and brush piles help provide protection while moving about the property. A pond on the Mountain Course's 5th hole has been designated as an environmentally sensitive area and is protected for the Red-legged frog, an endangered species. As well, 13th pond is stocked every spring with trout increasing the wildlife activity in this area. The area surrounding the pond serves as home to Cormorants, Blue Herons, Osprey, Bald Eagles numerous varieties of ducks and even an occasional River Otter.

Osborne pond and Matson Lake in the Valley Course are home to 15,000 juvenile Coho, called appropriately enough, Parr. Two fish ladders have been installed; 1 for Matson Lake and 1 in Osborne Lake to assist the salmon with their departure to Millstream Creek. We look forward to seeing them return in the fall of 2012

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation efforts are taking place on a continuous basis.

- Well water is used for both golf courses.

RECYCLING

- Divers retrieve the golf balls from all ponds and recycle close to 30,000 golf balls per year with many of these donated to local golf school programs.

ENERGY

- The use of electric carts saves the use of gasoline and harmful emissions produced by a 154 carts fleet. Our electric carts travel approximately 600,000 kms a year so the use of electric carts at Bear Mountain saves a great deal of emissions.

THE WESTIN BEAR MOUNTAIN

GREEN CUISINE:

The Westin Bear Mountain is committed to purchasing local, organic, Fair Trade and sustainable food products wherever possible, including utilizing organic or biodynamic wines, local purveyors and on-site herb garden.

- Five organic bee hives, with over 300,000 bees have been installed at the Westin Hotel. The honey is put to good use by the hotel culinary team as well as local breweries looking for organic honey for ales.
- Proud to be a member of the Vancouver Aquarium's Ocean Wise program, only sustainable seafood choices
- 20% off all vegetables used in the hotel certified organic. The remainder of the hotel's produce is responsibly grown and locally harvested wherever possible. Free range eggs, Local cheeses
- Composting: kitchen waste, grass clippings and garden waste. This composted material is used in garden beds at the resort, which uses only organic fertilizer.
- Chef Rennie's Herb Garden: Supplying the various outlets with fresh herbs and berries

RECYCLING

Waste Management paper, packaging and garbage are a reality of our lives, and of any business. Initiatives at Westin Bear Mountain include:

- Recycling bins throughout hotel including all guestrooms, meeting rooms, public space and employee areas
- 60-70% of monthly guest waste is diverted from going into landfills. Used soap, shampoo, linen, and paper products are offered to local charitable organizations
- Internal recycling programs for cooking oils. Grease Traps: in all kitchens prevent grease from entering the municipal sewer system
- Internal recycling programs for batteries, light bulbs and pallets

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation efforts are taking place on a continuous basis.

- Well water is used for both golf courses.
- Low flush toilets installed throughout the hotel to assist in water conservation.
- Guests can do their part by participating in the following programs:
 - Opt out of daily housekeeping service (towel and sheet exchange) Guest receives either 500 Starpoints or \$5.00 credit towards breakfast, available at all Starwood Properties
 - Opt to not have the dishwasher run daily, instead waiting until there is a full load.

Media Contact:
Kathi Springer, The Pace Group, 250-953-6695
Bear Mountain Resort - Environmental Awareness
PRESS KIT 2011



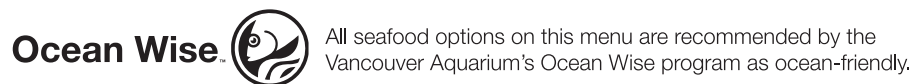
THE WESTIN
BEAR MOUNTAIN
GOLF RESORT & SPA
VICTORIA

ENERGY

- Approximately 80% of our lighting is energy efficient LED in partnership with BC Hydro's PowerSmart Program.
- Our DDC (Direct Digital Controls) building control systems maximize heating and cooling with numerous sensors and thermostats strategically placed. It also controls building pressurization in common area air quality and flow.
- Exterior lighting operates on a solar Latitude/Longitude System (reading where the sun is on the earth at all times), being more energy efficient than the old photoelectric cells, which could continually turn lights on and off with the passing of a cloud.

PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- British Columbia Hydro Power Smart Member
- Vancouver Aquarium Ocean Wise Program
- Audubon International
- FairTrade International
- Green Key Eco-Rating Program: rating systems designed to recognize hotels, motels and resorts that are committed to improving their environmental and fiscal performance.



ABOUT BEAR MOUNTAIN RESORT

Bear Mountain Resort, the premiere master-planned resort community on Vancouver Island, defines resort living. The only resort in Canada to feature 36 holes of Nicklaus Design golf, this lush mountainside community features a montage of residential and vacation real estate opportunities as well as The Westin Bear Mountain Golf Resort & Spa, Victoria. Santé Spa, where spa therapies inspired by natural elements await, a dining mecca with eclectic and world-class restaurants, the state-of-the-art Mountainside Athletic Club and The Village round out the complete lifestyle experience, all within minutes of the beautiful seaside harbour of Victoria, British Columbia. For more information, visit bearmountain.ca or call 1.888.533.BEAR.

