

# SUSTAINABILITY



THE RITZ-CARLTON  
ORLANDO, GRANDE LAKES

GRANDE LAKES  
ORLANDO



JW MARRIOTT  
ORLANDO  
GRANDE LAKES

At Grande Lakes Orlando, we know it's not just about enjoying a wonderfully scenic environment today— it's fundamental to maintain our pristine space for many years to come. We're proud to be the responsible stewards of 528 acres of amazing Florida territory and 100% committed to ensuring our hospitality operations are as sustainable as possible. Sustainability at Grande Lakes Orlando goes beyond participating in a handful of programs — it's our culture, which influences everything we do from golf to gastronomy.

## RESORT-WIDE SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

- 6 Certified Florida Master Naturalists on site
- 35 acres of untouched natural environment
- 100+ acres of maintained lakes
- 33 acres of monitored and protected habitats
- 100+ species of birds on property
- 3 butterfly gardens, 18 bird nest boxes, and 6 bat houses
- Reduced non-renewable energy usage by 22,000 kwh
- Golf course which is a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary
- Reduction of chemicals used on golf course by 90%
- Reduction in water usage by 12 million gallons
- Reduction in gasoline usages by 18%
- Whisper Creek Farm (7,000 square feet of fruit and vegetable gardens) produce is used in hotel restaurant dishes, beverages, and spa treatments
- Golf course borders Shingle Creek which will never be developed

## RECYCLING & ORGANICS MANAGEMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HARVEST POWER

Grande Lakes Orlando has been a founding participant with Harvest Power, a unique food-to-energy plant, which manages a process called "anaerobic digestion." The Harvest Power Orlando facility produces more than 15,547,080 kws of green energy, which is sold back to the grid to reduce the amount of other fossil fuel methods needed. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection approves the Harvest Power process.

## WINE CASK SYSTEM

At Highball & Harvest, we use a Wine Cask System with reusable wine casks. Not only does this enable us to save on recycling, it also allows us to preserve the quality of the wine since wines served by the glass are typically left open for days and can lose character due to oxidation. Cask wines are delivered in a draft system, thereby protecting the wine from any exposure to oxygen. Using casks eliminates bottles from occupying landfills and fewer fossil fuels are used to transport wine in casks versus bottled wine in cases since the weight of casks is less than bottles.

## WASTE STREAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT

During a typical month, Grande Lakes Orlando landfills 292.72 tons (91%) and diverts 30.27 tons (9%) for a total of 322.99 tons or 100%. Diverted materials include paper, plastic, aluminum, glass, and cardboard.

**In 2017, our properties are on pace to achieve the following goals:**

- Landfilled: 1,364.73 tons (92%)
- Diverted: 119.61 tons (8%)
- Total: 1,484.34 tons (100%)

**These recycling efforts conserved the following resources:**

- 206,002 kW-hrs of electricity  
*(enough to power 19 homes for a full year)*
- 1,234 mature trees  
*(enough to produce 15,293,908 sheets of newspaper)*
- 653,071 gallons of water  
*(enough to meet the fresh water needs of 8,707 people)*
- 434 cubic yards of landfill airspace  
*(enough airspace to meet the disposal needs of a community of 556 people)*
- 100 metric tons (MTCO2E) of GHG Emissions  
*(The recycling of these materials prevented these GHG emissions!)*

## NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

One ton of food typically breaks down in a landfill over a five-year period. It completes the Harvest Power cycle in an average of 28 days. The final byproduct is dry organic compost. The resorts receive 3 to 4 tons of this compost back annually for use at our Whisper Creek Farm, thereby creating a full-circle process.

The JW Marriott and The Ritz-Carlton have been participating with Harvest Power since the plant opened in 2014. It has diverted the following amount of food waste annually:

- 168 tons – 2014
- 188 tons – 2015
- 157 tons – 2016  
*(lower number due to a temporary closure of one of our outlets)*
- 195 tons – 2017  
*(currently on pace for the year)*

## AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS

- Golf course is a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary
- Green Certification from Golf Environment Organization (GEO)
- Winner of the International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO) Sustainability Award
- 2016 People's Choice Keggy Award (Wine Cask System)