

“Green” Hotels Association®

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PRESS RELEASE

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20+ FINEST US NATIONAL AND STATE PARK RESORTS JOIN "GREEN" HOTELS ASSOCIATION®

Lodges at Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Others Join

February 7, 2000, Houston, Texas - 20+ lodging properties located in America's most awesome, breathtaking national and state parks have joined the elite corps of "Green" Hotels Association® members. All the resorts, hotels and lodging properties in Yellowstone National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Ohio State Park Resorts & Conference Centers and North Georgia State Parks and Conference Centers and others managed by Amfac Parks & Resorts have recently joined "Green" Hotels Association®.

Commitment by the management of these fabulous properties and their staff for "greening" these properties is the result of their enthusiasm for learning and instituting important, new ways to protect and preserve these locations for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.

Located in national and state parks stretching through nine states (Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Utah and Wyoming) and encompassing 37 lodging properties with 5,723 guestrooms, many of these properties are popular throughout the year.

Amfac is the largest park-management company in the US, and employs approximately 7,200 people during the peak season. Their mission is to be recognized as the leader in park and resort hospitality, and they want guests to be assured of professionally-managed hotels. With continued emphasis on environmentally-friendly tourism, Amfac's environmental preservation and recycling programs at national parks have achieved widespread acclaim. More than 341 tons was recycled at Yellowstone in 1997, including aluminum, glass, cardboard, newspaper, computer paper, office paper and magazines. The Lied Conference Center uses bio-mass, a renewable fuel source, to generate heat, cooling and hot water.

With over 5,700 rooms committed, these properties normally accommodate hundreds of thousands of guests each year. Over 2,100 guestrooms in 9 locations at Yellowstone National Park and over 1,100 guestrooms at 9 sites in Grand Canyon National Park are included in the new membership. When the environmental program is in place, these guests will be able to participate which will help care for and protect these fabulous destinations. The overall results are expected to be far-reaching because guests, employees and vendor's representatives will take new "green" ideas to their homes, businesses and communities.

"Green" Hotels Association® encourages all lodging guests to participate in environmental programs. Guest participation can mean not having towels and sheets changed every day. Guest participation can mean participating in lodging recycling programs. Guest participation can mean enjoying spectacular destinations while helping to protect them "by taking nothing but photographs, and by leaving nothing but footprints".

Amfac Parks and Resorts' Judi Lages, Vice President of Sales & Marketing, stated, "We are reaching out to our guests, employees and vendors with our environmental program to help safeguard and preserve these majestic locations for future generations' enjoyment."

"Green" Hotels Association® President, Patricia Griffin, says, "GHA is proud and pleased to have this extraordinary and impressive group of properties in locations of unique natural grandeur join our association. Their decision to join will result in clearer water, cleaner air and less litter as well as reduced use of our natural resources at these pristine locations."

The first goal of all GHA member hotels is to save water, save energy and reduce solid waste. Then, we work in every other area of the hotel and its setting to care for and protect the environment. "From adding "drinking water served on request only" to the menu to installing new HVAC systems, and every measure in between, "Green" Hotels Association® advocates the greening of the lodging industry," says President Patricia Griffin.

"Green" Hotels Association® encourages, supports and promotes ecological consciousness in the hospitality industry through its trade association and its "Catalog of Environmental Products for the Lodging Industry". Because general managers, chief engineers and executive housekeepers generally do not have time to seek out all the ideas and suggestions for conserving water and energy and reducing solid waste, "Green" Hotels Association® has devoted itself to that task.

For further information on "Green" Hotels Association® and its environmental program or a list of its members, fax 713/789-9786, call 713/789-8889, or visit www.greenhotels.com.