

SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION

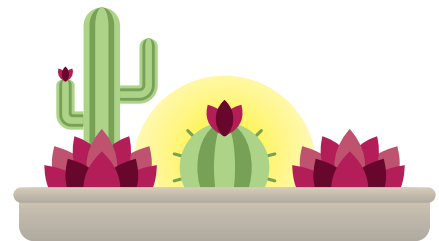
At the San Diego Convention Center

Host your event in San Diego, a city that is recognized nationally for sustainability and resilience. In 2025, San Diego achieved LEED Gold Certification for Cities and Communities from the U.S. Green Building Council!

Here at the San Diego Convention Center, green approaches are embedded in all areas of operations, with a particular focus on energy resiliency, sustainable sourcing, food waste reduction, and plastic reduction.

Energy Sourcing & Efficiencies

- By sourcing greener energy from San Diego Community Power, we have increased our renewable percentage from 31% to 50%.
- For ongoing efficiency, our entire facility uses:
 - LED light fixtures. We estimate the bulbs paid for themselves in fewer than two years.
 - Energy-efficient appliances in our kitchens, saving electricity and water.
 - Digital signage in the lobbies, reducing the need for single-use signage.
 - Drought-tolerant plants, drip irrigation, and mulch to reduce water waste.



Local & Sustainable Catering

- Fruits, vegetables, seafood, and more are purchased within a 150-mile radius when season permits.
- Our kitchens do not have any garbage disposals. All green waste is composted.
- Water bottle refill stations throughout the building reduce plastic waste. Where individual containers are needed, water is served in cans instead of bottles to minimize single-use plastic consumption.

“For many meeting planners, sustainable food practices are a ‘must’ – no longer a perk or an afterthought. It’s a value we share with our clients.”

- Sufi Karaïen, Executive Chef



Walkable Environments Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Our central location in the heart of downtown reduces car dependence. We are:

- Within walking distance of numerous hotels, shops, and restaurants.
- Next to a trolley stop that connects visitors to north San Diego, LA, and beyond via the Santa Fe Depot.
- Just three miles from San Diego International Airport.



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Community Donations

Our team collaborates with event organizers to ensure that extra food, promotional items, and event supplies are put to good use by donating them to local nonprofits, schools, and shelters.

Donated items include:

- School supplies
- Furniture
- Electronics
- Health and wellness products
- Unserved food



➤ Let us know if you anticipate having excess materials to donate from your event.

Volunteering as Team San Diego

Through volunteer activities, we help promote a cleaner and healthier region. Our team participates in environmental projects throughout the year.

Ongoing efforts include:

- Participating in Operation Clean Sweep, an annual San Diego Bay clean-up day
- Planting trees in downtown San Diego

➤ Ask us how we can help connect you to local partners to plan meaningful volunteer efforts with your company or association.

