welcome

At Grand Canyon National Park Lodges, a Xanterra Parks & Resorts® property, we strive to provide legendary hospitality with a softer footprint. We are deeply dedicated to protecting this unique and spectacular place by reducing our impact on the environment—both here at the Grand Canyon and beyond the boundaries of the park.

In our decision-making, we are working to balance the long-term protection of the global environment, the health of the Grand Canyon ecosystem, and the economic viability of our business. We reduce our waste, and our energy and water consumption, and work to bring more sustainable food and retail offerings to the park each year. Xanterra also supports Protect the Flows, an organization that works with businesses and decision makers to address increasing water demands on the Colorado River.

It is our philosophy that improving the environmental sustainability of our business is not just good business. It is the right thing to do.

Jon Streit  
General Manager  
Grand Canyon South Rim LLC  
Xanterra Parks & Resorts
Since the late 1800s, sure-footed mules have carried visitors and provisions in and out of the Grand Canyon. These iconic animals are still a mainstay of canyon travel and even play a role in making Phantom Ranch—the historic lodgings at the bottom of the canyon—more sustainable. Pack mules deliver the ranch’s supplies and mail daily. They then carry out waste, including loads of carefully sorted recycling.

But the mules no longer haul much food waste thanks to the composting efforts of our dedicated staff. The composting program at Phantom Ranch saves thousands of pounds of waste from the landfill and provides rich soil for many purposes at the ranch.

And the mules are good composters, too. In 2013, Xanterra’s sustainability and South Rim kitchen staffs worked together to turn discarded apples, lettuce, melon rinds, and pumpkins into healthy mule treats. In the first three months of 2014, the mules munched three tons of kitchen scraps!

The Data:
In 2013, Phantom Ranch composted 16,750 pounds of food scraps.
Want to Help?
We’re always happy to supply fresh guest towels and linens, but one easy way to help us conserve the Southwest’s precious water resources is to reuse your towels and linens, if they are still clean.

The Data:
The amount of carbon dioxide emissions we save each month by outsourcing laundry is the equivalent of planting 663 trees and growing them for 10 years.

water

While the mighty Colorado River cuts through the heart of the Grand Canyon, supplying water to the lodges and dining rooms on the South Rim is surprisingly difficult. Water must be pumped from the north side of the canyon all the way to the South Rim. This complex process requires a tremendous amount of energy.

Each year, Xanterra washes approximately 45 tons of guest laundry from the Grand Canyon Lodges. We recently determined that we can reduce our water impacts and save energy by sending hotel laundry to a service outside the park. This may sound counter-intuitive when you consider the fuel required to haul the linens, but by doing so, we’ve reduced our carbon dioxide emissions by 57,000 pounds per month!
Historic Sustainability

We recently began renovating the El Tovar Hotel, which first opened in 1905. While careful to preserve the building’s historic character, we are making a number of sustainable choices, such as LED lights, EPA Water Sense fixtures, sustainable carpeting, and sustainable furnishings made from rapidly renewable materials.
GRAND CANYON
NATIONAL PARK LODGES

Legendary Hospitality by Xanterra