



Sustainable Nosara Certification Hospitality Checklist

ENERGY

- Energy use is measured and reduction plans and targets are set. Provide: (1) Number of guests in a high season month or annual total and (2) Kilowatts (kWh) for the same month or annual total
- >75% of major appliances are ENERGY STAR Certified (e.g., AC unit, dishwasher, oven)
- >75% of bulb lighting is LED and 100% of tube lighting is T5/T8 fluorescent or LED
- Solar water heater OR No hot water
- Solar panels
- Motion sensors or smart features used for outdoor lighting
- Motion sensors or smart features installed in indoor areas or energy-saving signage posted at light switches
- Smart features for AC units or signage to encourage guests to use it efficiently
- Regular maintenance of major appliances (e.g., clean AC air filters, refrigerator coil)

WATER

- Water use is measured and reduction plans and targets are set. Provide: (1) number of guests in a high season month or annual total and (2) volume of water consumed in the same month or annual total
- Low flow faucets (< 6 L per min aerators)
- Low flow toilets or urinals (< 6 L per flush), dual flush, or incinerator/composting toilets
- >75% of cleaning products eco-friendly**
- No noticeable water leaks
- Filtered tap water provided for guests; signage to encourage use of reusable water bottles
- No irrigation OR water catchment and/or greywater recycling system used for irrigation

WATER

- No pool OR two of the following conservation measures: (1) solar pool cover, (2) wind blocks like hedges or fences, (3) no fountains or waterfalls, (4) limit backwashing to under 2 minutes and only when the pressure reaches 10 psi higher than clean pressure
- Linens and towels are changed no more than once a week unless a guest explicitly requests it
- Adequate wastewater treatment; one point if meet one of the following:**
 - a. Wastewater treatment system (e.g., Bionest, Ecosistemas Norweco)**
 - b. Incinerator/composting toilets**
 - c. A regularly maintained septic tank with adequate size capacity; details will be verified during the onsite review**
- Appropriate grease traps are installed which are cleaned every 1-3 months as necessary**

WASTE

- Up to date with payment to recycling center and recycle all plastic bottles and containers (PET1, HDPE2, LDPE4), metal (aluminum), tetrapack, cardboard, and glass. Appropriate recycling collection bins available and labeled**
- Separate and compost organic waste. Appropriate compost collection bins labeled**
- Up to date with trash collection payment to municipality and place trash inside a closed (wildlife-proof) metal or cement container for curbside pickup**
- Hand towels or air dryers provided rather than disposable paper towels at sinks
- No trash is burned
- No trash is sent to illegal dump sites



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PURCHASING & PRODUCTS

- No single-use plastic bags, straws, stirrers, cups or lids provided to guests.**
- No plastics PVC3, LDPE4, PP5, PS6, or 7 provided to guests (these are not recyclable in Nosara)**
- Beverages are not provided in plastic bottles to guests
- Only reusable foodware (e.g., dinnerware, drinkware, silverware) is provided for guests
- Reusable bag(s) provided to guests for use in markets
- Use biodegradable bags for recycling (clear) and trash collection (opaque)

BUILDING & LAND USE

- >30% of total property consists of permeable landscape and at least 25% of that space consists of green space or vegetation
- Green Building Certifications (e.g., LEED, Bandera Azul, EDGE; one point per certification)
- Insulated transformer & power lines adjacent to property
- Monkey bridges installed or sufficient arboreal corridor for passage through property (i.e., canopy intact)
- Native plant species planted as forage for wildlife
- Fencing allows animals to pass and provides wildlife corridor
- Limit light pollution. Outdoor lights directed downward or shielded and yellow or red bulbs used
- No standing water on property (no mosquito breeding sites)

BUILDING & LAND USE

- Use natural, eco-friendly pesticides
- Use natural, eco-friendly herbicides and fungicides
- Use natural, eco-friendly fertilizers

LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL

- Pay at least minimum wage to employees, social security, vacation and bonus
- Promote sustainability up the supply chain
- Environmental values and actions are posted publicly online and on the premises
- Environmental sustainability is incorporated into the hiring process, employee orientations and training programs
- Support local NGO's with in-kind or monetary donations (one point for each)
- Organize or participate in "green" events (e.g., beach clean-ups, tree planting)
- Signage or other means of sharing information to encourage guests to respect the refuge (e.g., do not take home shells, do not leave any trash behind, no fires on the beach)
- Promote health and happiness in the workplace. If so, please explain how.
- Tell us what you are doing above and beyond...

One point per item or as otherwise specified. Items in bold are required for all levels.
Bronze = 7-13 POINTS (25%) | Silver = 14-26 POINTS (50%) | Gold = 27+ POINTS (75%)



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