

ABOUT THE NEW JERSEY MEADOWLANDS COMMISSION

The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) is the regional planning and zoning authority for the 30.4.-square-mile Meadowlands District, which encompasses parts of 14 towns in Bergen and Hudson counties. The NJMC was created by the New Jersey State Legislature in 1969 and tasked with a three-fold mandate: to protect the delicate balance of nature, to provide for orderly development, and to provide facilities for the disposal of solid waste. The Commission is a regional leader in energy saving and green initiatives. Its Center for Environmental and Scientific Education was the first public building in New Jersey to obtain Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum certification, the highest level, from the U.S. Green Building Council. For more information on the NJMC, visit www.njmeadowlands.gov or call 201-460-1700.

ABOUT THE GREEN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION

The Boston-based Green Restaurant Association (GRA) is a national non-profit organization founded in 1990 that helps restaurants in 45 states and Canada lower their environmental impacts through practical and quantifiable changes. The GRA provides a convenient and cost-effective way for restaurants, manufacturers, distributors and consumers to become more environmentally responsible. To learn more about the GRA, go to www.dinegreen.com.

The Meadowlands Green Restaurant Initiative

Helping You Go Green to Reduce Energy Expenses



New Jersey Meadowlands Commission
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The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) and the Green Restaurant Association (GRA) are working together to help your restaurant save energy and reduce expenses by conducting free energy audits that establish easy to implement, environmentally-friendly changes that have a quick and proven return on investment (ROI). Our audits will assess areas where you can save money in the short and long-term, from conserving water and upgrading HVAC systems to switching to energy-efficient cooking, cleaning and holding units. We will also evaluate your green purchasing practices and other areas where you can reduce costs while creating a healthier dining environment for your staff and customers.

Through the Meadowlands Green Restaurant Initiative, you will learn about New Jersey's many money-saving programs for restaurants. These include the Direct Install Program, which offers up-front discounts (no rebates) of up to 70% on labor and products, and the NJ Smart Start Program, which provides incentives toward the purchase of environmentally-friendly restaurant equipment.

In addition to saving money, going green can help ring in profits. Consumers in increasing numbers are choosing to dine at environmentally-friendly restaurants. With the 2014 Super Bowl in February expected to bring hundreds of thousands of hungry visitors to the region, now is the perfect time to take advantage of the Meadowlands Green Restaurant Initiative.

ABOUT THE MEADOWLANDS GREEN RESTAURANT INITIATIVE

The Meadowlands Green Restaurant Initiative aims to assist area restaurants by educating restaurateurs about cost-effective strategies to green their businesses and provide training on how to implement these measures. The intent of the Initiative is to promote sustainability throughout the food and beverage industry in a proactive manner that demonstrates the economic benefits to restaurant establishments, as well as to the environment.

The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) created the Initiative and chose the Green Restaurant Association (GRA) as its partner organization under a Region 2 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency grant the Commission received in 2012. The grant calls for projects to concentrate on addressing four of the USEPA's national focus areas for Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants: reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. gas and electric); reduction of use of hazardous materials (e.g. cleaning supplies); reduction of water usage; and cost savings.

Under the program, the GRA will highlight 4-8 case studies of restaurants that participate in the audits, create a green restaurant information website and database, and produce a green restaurant guidebook that can be used as a statewide model.

HERE IS HOW TO GET STARTED

Step #1 — Schedule Free Audit

It only takes about 90 Minutes. It's free. No hidden catch or obligation to do anything after the audit. To schedule your free audit today, go to www.dinegreen.com and click "Schedule Audit," email meadowlands@dinegreen.com or call 551-579-4891.

Step #2 — The Audit

Energy experts from New Jersey Direct Install contractors Lime Energy and National Resource Management will visit your restaurant and conduct the audit. Within a short time, you will receive a report with recommended steps and an estimated return on investment.

Step #3 — Acting on Recommendations

Our energy experts will review the audit report with you so that you fully understand your options. You can then choose how or if you would like to proceed. There are no rebates involved. You only pay the net price.

