

CASE STUDY

NORTHERN QUEST RESORT & CASINO

CHALLENGES IN RESORT WASTE MANAGEMENT

To support the Kalispel Tribe's commitment to environmental stewardship, Northern Quest Resort & Casino leadership engaged Resource Synergy to determine how to reduce waste and conserve resources. After conducting a comprehensive waste characterization and analyzing results, Resource Synergy recommended that Northern Quest begin by implementing a property-wide compost and food waste reduction program. Since Northern Quest was paying for trash disposal by weight, shifting heavy food waste from the trash to less expensive compost containers would not only deliver an environmental benefit, but also save money.

INNOVATIVE FOOD WASTE REDUCTION STRATEGIES

At its peak, Northern Quest was collecting about 7.5 tons of food waste per week! While it was great that this material was going to compost vs. the waste to energy plant, and even better that Northern Quest was purchasing food grown in that very compost, the question remained: Is there a better option? We've since implemented a food waste prevention system that has dramatically reduced food waste, and we've also established a closed-loop Food-to-Pigs, Pigs-to-Food partnership with a local farmer.

AWARD WINNING RECYCLING INITIATIVES

In addition to composting, the collaboration between Maintenance, Housekeeping, and Food & Beverage helped turn cardboard into a revenue generator, and the team also implemented single-stream recycling across the property.

Collectively, these activities were recognized by the Washington State Recycling Association and the Kalispel Tribe was awarded the prestigious honor of 2022 Recycler of the Year.



Resource Synergy's support has been invaluable. They helped us not only achieve significant waste savings, but also maintain those savings over time.

-JAMES NENEMA, SR. DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES