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GAITHERSBURG, MD HOTEL HONORED FOR COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENT



Gaithersburg, MD (April 27, 2009) – The Holiday Inn Gaithersburg, MD, was presented with the prestigious **“Gaithersburg Environmental Award”** by the Honorable Mayor Sidney Katz and Gaithersburg City Council for their outstanding efforts to improve the city’s environment. Awarded each year, the City of Gaithersburg seeks to show appreciation and recognize members of the community for giving back to the environment, while encouraging others to get involved in making the city a greener place live, work and play.

Accepting the award on behalf of the hotel was Mr. Melvin Nichols, General Manager and “OBG,” mascot for “Our Big Green” (future sustainability program created by B. F. Saul Company – Hotel Division). Nichols stated, “we completed this revitalization with a commitment to preserve our community,” adding, “the renovation was guided by our award-winning environmental improvement plan which focuses on three core principles: Conserve, Recycle and Act Now.” The team embraces green practices, which are motivated by the fun and passionate approach of “OBG,” who also appears at local schools, community and civic events.

“We replaced each of our windows and frames to improve energy efficiency; to reduce our electricity usage we installed compact fluorescents bulbs; and we improved the water flow through the addition of 1.0 gallon low-flow toilets in every guest room,” stated Nichols, adding, “we also recycled old carpeting and metal waste as part of the demolition.” Ensuring the hotel continues to remain committed to the environment, Nichols and his team celebrated their own “Earth Week” in the days leading up to the awards ceremony (April 20-24) by installing drought resistant trees & plants. The hotel also is actively promoting “Green Meeting Packages” to their clients that reduce paper consumption, utilize recycled products, use of filtered water to eliminate plastic bottles and purchasing local produce (when available).

The Holiday Inn Gaithersburg serves both business and leisure guests seeking first class hotel accommodations, meeting facilities and banquet venues near Washington, DC. Part of a collection of hotels, the facility is owned and managed by the B. F. Saul Company – Hotel Division based in Bethesda, MD. To learn more of the organization’s commitment to the environment, click on [Big Green Pledge](#).

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