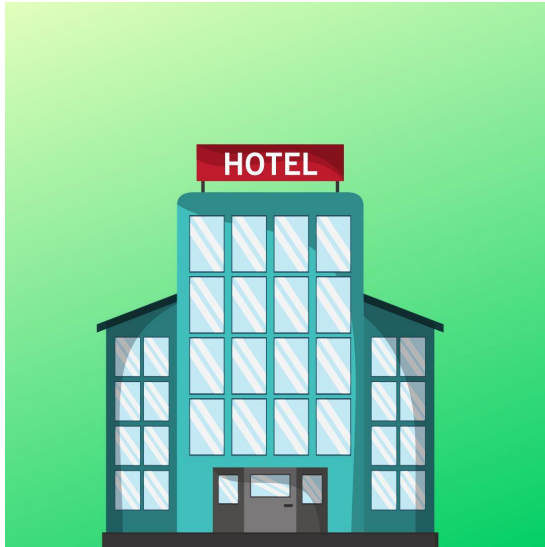


**Help the hotels you love.**  
**By Don Hamp, EAC Member**



This summer we took a road trip spanning five states and eight hotels. With each stop over I studied how the hotel was moving toward sustainability. For example, in the dining area of our small hotel in Sturgeon Bay, WI there were plenty of stoneware cups and dishes, real utensils and even cloth napkins! They were free for the borrowing and could be returned any time to be washed free of charge. Not a foam cup anywhere.

On your next voyage take the time to observe, study and then share. [Tourism is responsible for over 5% of the global CO2 emissions.](#)

Has the hotel replaced bottled water with water filter stations and dropped using clear plastic trash bags in wastebaskets? Do you see reduced housekeeping and duvets instead of hard-to-wash bulky comforters? Have they replaced the standard single use plastic shampoo's, soaps and conditioners with refillable glass dispensers? While zenning out over your express hotel oatmeal, look around. What kind of coffee cups do they use? Is there compostable dishware? Have they dropped plastic straws and coffee stirrers? These are easy things to change.

The important part. When you checkout, ring that desk bell, share how you appreciate their efforts and what big things you dream about seeing next time. (Solar panels?, permeable lots, more efficient windows?) Encouraging change is often about having a conversation. In a rush? you can still post a review or email. On your next trip do a little research on [sustainable accommodations](#) and help change the world one express hotel at a time.

