



## GREEN BACKGROUNDER

Green is the new color of luxury hospitality, and the Nines in Portland, Oregon is laying it on thick. Owned by Sage Hospitality, the 331-room property will open in October, 2008 in the historic Meier & Frank department store building in Downtown Portland. Sage has worked closely with the Portland Development Commission to implement many environmental and conservation policies big and small at the hotel, including the purchase of 100 percent of the hotel's electricity through renewable energy sources and use of eco-conscious "Green Seal" certified housekeeping products. The hotel is anticipating LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) was developed by the USGBC as a recognized rating system for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. The Nines will be the third existing hotel building in the world to receive the U.S. Green Building Council's prestigious Silver rating (and the 11<sup>th</sup> hotel worldwide to have achieved any level of LEED certification at all).

The Nines anticipates earning credit toward Silver Certification thanks to several considerations. For instance:

- Ninety percent of the 24 million pounds of material removed during the building's renovation was recycled and diverted from landfills.
- The Nines will draw from 100% renewable energy – including wind-power and carbon offsets.
- During construction and installation of final finishes, the hotel used only low-emitting adhesives, sealants, paints and carpets in order to secure optimum air quality.
- Guest bathrooms have dual-flush toilets and low-flow faucets for an anticipated savings of approximately 500,000 gallons of water each year.
- The hotel's setting in the Meier & Frank building counts toward certification, earning credit for reuse and for maintaining at least 75% of the building's shell.
- Limited outdoor lighting will reduce light pollution in the surrounding area.
- In an effort to encourage guests and employees to choose alternative transportation, bike storage and easy access to public transportation will be available.
- And if all that weren't enough, the Nines is 100% smoke-free.

Portland is a leading market for LEED projects, with certification viewed favorably by the city's progressive citizenry and required by the local Development Commission. For more details, visit [www.thenines.com](http://www.thenines.com)

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