

# DOUBLETREE HOTEL

## PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

Imagine reducing your project's water requirements by 50% while incorporating it into the overall marketing approach for the project.

That is what the Doubletree Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens has done. The hotel, located at the northwest corner of Interstate 95 and PGA Boulevard, recently opened its upscale Executive Meeting Center (EMC).

The 15,358 square foot facility was designed using sustainable development practices that mirror the hotel's holistic approach to its guests. After purchasing the 280-room hotel in 2006, the Thayer Lodging Group embarked on a \$10 million upgrade of the complex. The improvements include hypo-allergenic rooms, pillows and materials, upgraded room bathrooms and a redeveloped lobby and restaurant.

The EMC is pursuing a Silver LEED Certification, as determined by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Urban Design Kilday Studios, who shepherded the project through the government approval process, has been an integral member of the LEED certification team. UDKS designed and oversaw the installation of the project's landscaping and the underground Drip Irrigation system. This below grade irrigation system provides water to the roots of the plants, and does not lose water due to evaporation and runoff. This system allows for up to 50% less water usage.

In addition to the energy savings associated with the new building, the Doubletree Hotel uses their pending LEED certification as a marketing tool for executives visiting the area.

