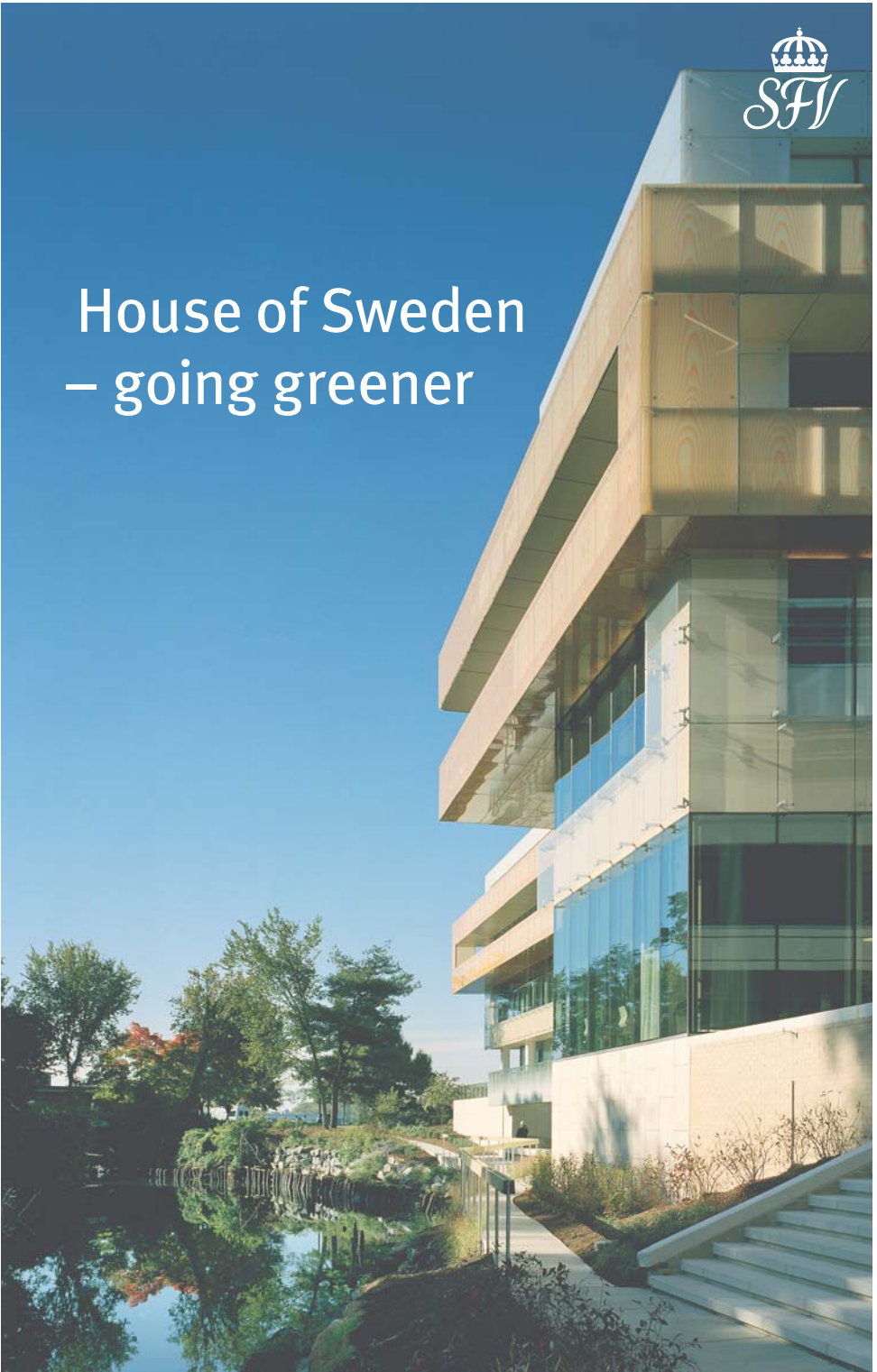




House of Sweden – going greener





House of Sweden is owned and managed by the Kingdom of Sweden through the National Property Board Sweden (SFV). We at SFV are striving to adapt to the environment or more broadly to the wider concept of sustainability. When managing properties in foreign countries, we naturally have to follow the local laws and regulations. In considering what is best for the environment, we therefore aim to achieve a balance between Swedish requirements and foreign conditions.

LEED certification

House of Sweden is currently undergoing LEED certification. The goal is to attain a Silver Rating* by the end of 2009. LEED, which stands for “Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design”, is one of the world’s leading systems for the environmental certification of buildings. We will continue to work towards a Gold Rating in 2012. The LEED classification is based on: use of resources, building’s location and design, indoor climate and minimisation of energy consumption and waste. LEED certification is carried out and verified by an independent third party through the American environmental organisation, the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).

* Ratings from Bronze to Platinum.

Lighting

One of House of Sweden's signature features is the backlit glass façade with its printed wood pattern. We are currently testing and evaluating LED technology* both for the interior and exterior areas. Our goal is to transition to these more energy-efficient light-fixtures where we do not have LED lights. House of Sweden has already begun using LED lighting in its corridors.

Energy-efficient façade

House of Sweden has a top-quality double-glazed façade, employing leading technology that is used in many other places around the globe, including the new opera house in Oslo. In addition to the insulating effect by the glass, House of Sweden's thoughtful design also protects large areas from strong sunlight and high temperatures. For example the balconies provide shade to many of the rooms in the building. In summary, this means less demand for air conditioning.

Good results require collaboration

We work with our tenants to make their everyday operations as eco-friendly as possible. There is no local recycling system in place in the Washington DC area, which makes it difficult for House of Sweden to reach its full green potential. We recycle as much as possible and are working with waste management companies to improve the process.

All cleaning in House of Sweden is done using environmentally friendly products and the landscaping around House of Sweden is managed in accordance with LEED guidelines.

Green electricity

House of Sweden is a large and impressive building that consumes a great deal of electricity. SFV has therefore switched to green electricity which is generated by wind and water. SFV is also constantly striving to improve the energy efficiency of the building.

Making the event center even greener

The key selling points of the event center have been its great location and unique atmosphere, but from now on our green focus is going to be given more prominence. SFV's ambition for 2009 is to make the event center as green as it possibly can be. If you are looking to hold a green conference or a green celebration in Washington DC - we warmly welcome you to House of Sweden!

* LED (light-emitting diode) is an electronic light source. The advantages over traditional light sources include lower energy consumption, longer lifetime, improved robustness and smaller size.

What do you think we should do to make House of Sweden more eco-friendly?

Send your suggestions to:
info@houseofsweden.com

Environmental policy

The Swedish National Property Board, SFV, shall administer buildings, forests and land owned by the state, and perform construction projects where humans and the environment are in focus. Through economical use of natural resources and through ecocycle adaptation, the work shall be directed towards a lasting and sustainable development.

Within SFV, environmental values shall be treated equally to functional, architectural, cultural and economical values.

SFV shall actively maintain and increase the environmental competence of the employees, in order to decrease and prevent negative environmental impact in the daily work through:

- clear requirements when purchasing goods and services
- better use of natural resources, referring to products and material
- a decrease of the energy consumption
- a decrease of water consumption for foreign properties, where the water supply is limited
- a long-term use of forests, preserving the productivity and yet retaining the habitat of naturally existing species of the area
- administration and use of agricultural lands from a long-term sustainable perspective, and through consideration and preservation of biological and experiential values of the agricultural landscape
- a decrease of hazardous discharges and pollution from properties, buildings and transports
- facilitation of an effective, environmentally correct, waste treatment and disposal
- following and exceeding of current environmental legislation and other types of requirements for our activities

SFV shall, actively, inform tenants, visitors, leaseholders and others who are in contact with properties owned by the state, about our environmental activities.