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DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Johnson City is the City's First Certified "Green" Hotel

Johnson City, Tenn., May 9, 2011 – The Tennessee Hospitality Association has awarded the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Johnson City its Tennessee Green Hospitality certificate for the hotel's conservation efforts. The association encourages lodging facilities statewide to become aware of their impact on the environment and take steps to reduce their carbon footprint while increasing their sustainability.

Currently there are 26 certified Tennessee Green Hospitality hotels statewide, including the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Johnson City and four other DoubleTree Hotels owned by Memphis-based Cooper Hotels.

To qualify for the certification, hotels must meet rigid guidelines and undergo an audit by an independent environmental consulting company.

"The entire team here at the DoubleTree by Hilton Johnson City is proud to be the first hotel in Johnson City to be green certified," said general manager Steve Lewis. "We are committed to helping save natural resources and protecting the environment, and we hope the other hotels in the city, and statewide, will participate in the important Tennessee Green Hospitality program."

The Tennessee Department of Tourist Development is also leading an effort to have hotels throughout the state become part of its Sustainable Tourism Initiative. The department has partnered with the Tennessee Hospitality Association in bringing attention to the need for a sustainable tourism industry.

For certification, hotels must have programs in place for recycling, energy efficiency, water conservation and waste reductions. Conserving energy includes utilizing high efficiency light bulbs, photo sensors and motion detectors. Equipment and computers must be EnergyStar rated. There must be efficient heating and cooling, an optional linen program for guests, a "green events" program, and a plan for continued improvement.

Located at 211 Mockingbird Lane, the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Johnson City has 184 guest rooms and suites, 2,500 sq. ft. of meeting and banquet space and Fanatics Sports Club. The hotel is in the central city adjacent to Johnson City Mall and Roan Center. It is convenient to area corporations and minutes from the Tri-Cities Airport, East Tennessee State University, Freedom Hall, Johnson City Medical Center and Bristol Motor Speedway. For more information on the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton Johnson City call 423-929-2000 or visit doubletreejohnsoncity.com

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