



Julie Klein - Principal, Confluence Sustainability, LLC

Julie Klein is a highly experienced environmental sustainability professional, and founder of Confluence Sustainability.



Mission

- Her mission is to bring sustainability solutions to the broadest audience possible, including business, public sector, non-governmental (NGO) clients, and consumers. She has particular expertise in the areas of travel and tourism and municipal program development, yet her skills and experience extend far beyond these sectors.
- With the end result always in mind, she brings a strong focus to achieving targeted outcomes, and has a track record of successfully navigating the challenges of complex organizations.
- She believes that businesses can lead the way in implementing - and reaping the benefits of - innovative sustainability solutions, and her goal is to speed her clients towards success.
- In her work, she embraces the power of partnerships and collaborative decision-making to accelerate results - a true confluence of resources.

Core competencies include strategic sustainability planning; innovative program creation; management systems integration; natural resource conservation strategy and delivery; ISO standards; stakeholder engagement; creative public/private partnership development; and, marketing communications.

Experience

Her education and experience blend strong communication skills with effective environmental sustainability program and policy development. Julie's work has progressed through a series of positions and projects in:

- Environmental Affairs and Corporate Stewardship
- Environmental Health and Safety
- Recycling and Waste Management

She is asked frequently to speak at conferences and universities on sustainability and its application to the business, tourism and hospitality sectors.

In her work, she is consistently recognized for her innovative approach to identifying opportunities and addressing challenges, and her effectiveness in achieving results. For example:

- Award-winning. As Director of Environmental Health and Safety for Grand Teton Lodge Company/Vail Resorts, she led US Department of Interior award-winning ISO 14001, 9001, and OSHA-certified environmental and risk management programs. Earlier, in her work as head of Denver's recycling program, she developed a US EPA award-winning curbside collection program for household hazardous waste. One of the first of its kind for a major US city, the program leapfrogged from no disposal options for more than 150,000 households to a low-cost, easy-to-use, door-to-door program.
- Innovative. With Vail Resorts/RockResorts, she co-created and led the first luxury-brand volunteer vacation program - "Give & Getaway." This seasonal program coordinated with local conservation non-profits across the international hospitality portfolio, was popular with guests, and copied by other luxury hotel brands.
- Bottom-line Focused. As Director of Environmental Affairs at RockResorts/Vail Resorts Hospitality, she led a program that helped save Vail Resorts \$3 million in energy costs. Water on the Rocks cut disposable plastic bottle use by 550,000 annually.
- Seamless Integration. In all her roles, she successfully led cross-functional teams to develop sustainability vision, strategy, goals and metrics. She takes a systematic approach to address such key impacts as water, waste, energy, and stakeholder engagement.

Professional and Volunteer Involvements

The following is a collection of Julie's current and recent involvements

- Sustainable Travel International - Board member, board secretary - 2005-current
- Sustainable Travel Leadership Network - co-convener and past-member
- University of Colorado, Sustainability MBA program, advisory board
- Jackson Community Recycling (Jackson Hole, Wyoming) - Board member, 2003-07
- Greater Yellowstone Clean Energy Coalition - Board member, 2003-07
- Yellowstone Business Partnership - Uncommon Sense - co-creator/program advisor 2005-07; 2011
- Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) - Board member, Rocky Mountain Chapter, 2000-03
- Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)/U.S. EPA -Ski Industry Pollution Prevention Advisory Board - Member, 1999-2001



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720.271.5173

Julie@ConfluenceSustainability.com

Skype: julieklein65