



Virginia Green Attractions



Profile



Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green Attractions* have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for *Green Attractions* and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests. Below is a list of this attraction's "green" activities that guests can expect.

Busch Gardens

Busch Gardens is widely recognized as global leaders in wildlife conservation and education. The SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, a not-for-profit organization was created in 2003, provides grants to preserve and protect wildlife and their habitats, by focusing support in species research, habitat protection, animal rescue and conservation education. We also partner with leading environmental organizations to preserve wetlands, protect wildlife and their habitats, promote recycling and litter prevention and clean up our nation's waterways. Specifically, Busch Gardens supports conservation, education and research around the globe. Collaborating with international conservation organizations including The Nature Conservancy, Center for Marine Conservation, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and National Wildlife Federation, Busch Gardens helps protect threatened habitats. Busch Gardens Williamsburg provides lessons in animal conservation, education and research. Each year, millions of guests experience unforgettable animal adventures at Busch Gardens. For more than 40 years, the Worlds of Discovery parks have been committed to wildlife conservation, animal care, education and research.



Virginia Green Activities. When visiting the Busch Gardens Williamsburg, you can expect the following practices:

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

- Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Attractions provide highly-visible recycling opportunities for guests.
 - Recycling: Aluminum Cans, Glass, Steel Cans, Grease, Plastic, Office Paper, Toner Cartridges, Newspaper, Cardboard, Packing Supplies, Fluorescent Lamps, Batteries, Electronics Equipment
 - Plenty of highly-visible signage promoting recycling and bins
 - Looking to utilize a new local composting facility in 2009 for all food waste
 - Using single-stream recycling method available through TFC
 - Use recycled material for guest brochures, maps and show schedules
 - Construction projects are designed to reduce impact and recycle any demolition materials
 - Tracking overall waste bills and quantities

- Effective food inventory control to minimize wastes
 - Filtering grease
 - Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
 - Recycled content paper towels and toilet tissue
 - Use 2-sided copying, electronic correspondence and forms, recycled content paper
 - Use “green” cleaners
 - Purchase durable furniture and equipment
 - Use of reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
 - Use latex paint
 - Preventive maintenance on all vehicles and equipment
 - Last in/first out inventory
 - Use least toxic materials
 - Reduce pesticide use through the use of beneficial insect larvae (i.e. Ladybugs) as part of the park’s commitment to organic gardening
- Minimize/Eliminate Styrofoam.** Attractions work to minimize or eliminate the use of Styrofoam cups and plates in favor of products that are bio-based, paper, or recyclable.
- Currently testing disposable plates and utensils that are bio-based at two culinary locations
- Water Efficiency.** Attractions have a “plan” for conserving and using water efficiently.
- Tracking overall water usage and wastewater
 - Preventive maintenance on drips and leaks
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Discourage water based cleanup, sweep first
 - Low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - Low flow toilets
 - Effective landscape management plan which utilizes drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
 - Use rain barrels
 - Reclaim water from HVAC units, water collected is used by the landscaping department
 - Effective storm water management
 - Vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Energy Conservation.** Attractions have a “plan” that encourages energy conservation and efficiency.
- Tracking overall energy bills
 - High Efficiency Heating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) and use of ceiling fans
 - Use lighting sensors and motion detectors in office areas
 - High efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps
 - Purchase EnergyStar computers and appliances
 - Use of directional lighting in parking lots and outdoor areas
 - Purchase fuel-efficient vehicles or hybrids
 - The Busch Gardens Energy Management System controls the park’s use of electricity to reduce the demand for power generation.
 - The Rhine River Cruise boats use battery-powered motors to prevent water pollution
 - The park’s railroad system and trams utilize propane, a clean burning fuel.
- Green Events Package.** Attractions provide at least recycling when they host special events.



For more information on **Busch Gardens Williamsburg**, see www.buschgardens.com/BGW or contact Alicia Moore at Alicia.moore@buschgardens.com.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen.

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