



Virginia Green

Attractions



Profile:

Ernie Morgan Center

Norfolk, 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.

Ernie Morgan Center

"The Ernie Morgan Center, a 4,000 square foot public facility located next to the Virginia Zoo, on the grounds of historic Lafayette Park in the heart of Norfolk, provides a Green Building Demonstration through its 16 interior exhibits and 10,000 square foot EcoGarden. Included in the exhibits are demonstrations of backyard composting, vermicomposting, energy conservation, sustainable building exhibits such as recycled plastic carpet and marmoleum. The center also acts as a community environmental clearinghouse with easy access to information for citizens, students and businesses, and frequently provides a small meeting location for local volunteer groups. The center houses the City of Norfolk Office of Recycling and Litter Prevention."



CORE ACTIVITIES for all *Virginia Green Attractions*

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

- Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle Glass Bottles and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:
 - Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, steel cans, food waste (composting), plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
 - Plenty of highly-visible signage promoting recycling and bins
 - Track overall waste bills
 - Purchase/design cups to promote/allow effective recycling
 - Donate excess food from events
 - Compost food waste and other compostables
 - Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
 - Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper
 - Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
 - Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
 - Use electronic correspondence and forms

- Use “green” cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Purchase low VOC carpets and fabrics
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paints
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials

Styrofoam/Disposables Minimization. Participants are encouraged to minimize use of all disposables and eliminate the use of Styrofoam products for take-out and left-overs. This restaurant pledges that they:

- Use disposable containers made from compostable materials

Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have a green roof
- Have a rain garden
- Minimization of impervious surfaces

Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Use ceiling fans
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Use natural lighting
- Solar panels
- Thermal rated windows and insulation

Green Events Package. The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages

For more information on **Ernie Morgan Center**, see www.norfolkbeautiful.org or contact Holly Carson at holly.carson@norfolk.gov.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen or www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

