Virginia Green Attractions

Profile:

Norfolk Botanical Garden

Norfolk, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices is 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.

Norfolk Botanical Garden

Green Statement: "The mission of Norfolk Botanical Garden is to enrich life by promoting the enjoyment of plants and the environment through beautiful gardens and educational programs. Our green actions are a natural extension of this mission."

CORE ACTIVITIES for *Virginia Green Attractions*

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Clearly marked recycling bins for glass, steel and aluminum
- Track overall waste bills
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Use reusable dishware and glassware and minimize use of disposables
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use high-efficiency hand-dryers
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use "green" cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Use latex paints
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Compost non-infected green waste from the landscape

☑ **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 facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable containers made from recycled content paper and that are recyclable

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

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective stormwater management plan including: pervious pavement
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds

☑ **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 compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Use a bio-diesel tram for tours

☑ **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
- Recycling available for guests and meeting participants, bulk dispensers in toiletries

For more information on **Norfolk Botanical Garden**, see **www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org** or contact **Perry Mathewes at perry.mathewes@nbgs.org** or **757-441-5830**.

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