



Roanoke Civic Center Roanoke, Virginia

"The Roanoke Civic Center is a public assembly facility. We host entertainment, sports, and cultural events, as well as meetings, banquets, receptions, expos, and conventions."

Green Statement: "It is our intention to become good corporate citizens with this community by doing our share to reduce, reuse, and recycle. We have a goal to become LEED certified and to make every effort to convert or replace equipment and materials with earth-friendly and environmentally-safe products."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Conference Centers

Minimization of Disposable Food Service Products. All conference centers are required to minimize the use of disposable food service products and maximize the use of food service products that are recyclable or compostable in the food service area. When disposable food service items are used, you are encouraged to use products that are made from bio-based or renewable resources, and to provide for the collection / recycling/ composting of food service items disposed of on the premises. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable
- Will soon use compostable food service items and direct this material to available composting operations in your area

Recycling and Waste Reduction. All conference centers must have highly-visible locations/containers that provide the opportunity for guests to recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles. Recycling of steel cans, cardboard, office paper, and composting of waste foods are encouraged as well. Additionally, conference centers must be actively working to reduce their solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: plastic bottles, aluminum cans, office paper
- Have recycling bins located: strategically placed throughout the facilities with signs to indicate that they are recycle bins and listing what disposable items are acceptable
- Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, electronic equipment

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Donate excess food from events
- Will soon compost food waste and other compostables

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Use cloth napkins
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles



Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Install carpet with sustainable or recycled content and low-VOC adhesives
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

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

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have installed:
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
 - Waterless urinals



Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species

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

Heating and cooling

- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have installed LED Exit Signs
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy / practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other device in unoccupied rooms an the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used

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
- Offer the opportunity to clients to have all recyclable food service materials available if they are requesting catering or concessions services (i.e., no styrofoam or non-recyclable materials).
- Have additional recycle bins available for high profile events where “greening” is the focus.
- Currently in the process of changing many ballasts and light bulbs/fixtures (all but in the Coliseum) in each of our facilities, so energy-conservation is a consideration when a client is deciding upon which building to rent.
- Actively monitor climate control and have this discussion with the client in advance of setting up for an event.

For more information on Roanoke Civic Center, see www.RoanokeCivicCenter.com or contact Robyn Schon at Robyn@RoanokeCivicCenter.com or (540) 853-6861.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia’s campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. **Virginia Green Conference Centers** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This conference center has met the established “core activities” for **Green Conference Centers** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

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

