



Virginia Green Conference Centers Profile:



Airlie Conference Center

6809 Airlie Road
Warrenton

"Airlie Conference Center is a leading conference destination in the United States located just one hour from Washington D.C. Airlie offers diversified meeting facilities, a secluded 1,200 acre campus and an ongoing commitment to sustainable and green initiatives. Airlie Center holds Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's E3 (Environmental Excellence) designation and Green Seal 'Silver' status, and The Pavilion, the largest of Airlie's meeting buildings, is LEED Gold certified."

Green Statement: "Airlie's leadership in environmental initiatives extends far beyond its comprehensive efforts to reduce energy consumption, minimize waste through recycling and composting, and the utilization of eco-friendly products in all aspects of its operations. Airlie Center also produces and sources local foods, stewards more than 1,200 acres of sensitive wildlife habitat and runs a series of workshops, conferences and programs dedicated to environmental education and policy each year.

An intrinsic part of Airlie's founding vision was to provide a gathering place for the creative exchange of ideas that would drive the collective action required to preserve the Earth's natural resources. As the Earth's natural resources quickly become depleted, every individual and organization has a responsibility to protect the environment around them. This is not something that we have always done as responsible stewards of the land. It is in the fabric of who we are."



CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Conference Centers

- Recycling.** 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. This facility pledges that they:
 - Provide the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, steel cans, newspaper, office paper
 - Have recycling bins located: in all lobbies, meeting rooms and offices as well some guest rooms. In guest rooms without bins, housekeeping sort's recycling when they collect the trash.
 - Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, cardboard, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
 - Compost kitchen scraps on property for use in our organic garden. All employees are trained in our environmental management system including what can be recycled and where it should be sent. Whenever possible, we donate usable items to local charities and organizations.

☑ **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 made from bio-based materials, renewable materials
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable
- Only use disposable food service items in packed lunches or for outdoor events that require the use of disposables

☑ **Solid Waste Reduction.** All conference centers must be actively working to reduce their solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall solid waste costs
- Have a numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill

- *Kitchen (or meetings/events)*
- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Donate excess food from events
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

- *Dining room (or meetings/events)*
- Use cloth napkins
- Use reusable coffee filters
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- 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
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Often reupholster or refinish furniture to extend its use



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

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
 - Waterless urinals
 - Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective storm water management plan which includes minimization of impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Majority of watering is done in the early morning or late evening to prevent evaporation

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
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time
- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on
- Have installed geothermal heating and cooling

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- 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 compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have installed LED Exit Signs
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- 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

Transportation-related energy use

- Use alternative fuel, hybrid-electric, or electric vehicles

Source of energy

- Purchase Green Power from utility

Building Construction and Renovation

- Are working to achieve LEED-EB (existing building) certification through operational changes and renovations
- Our LEED Gold Certified Pavilion uses Geothermal heating and cooling

- 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 Airlie Conference Center, see www.airlie.com or contact Breanna Detwiler at <mailto:bdetwiler@airlie.com> or 540-341-3283.

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.viriniagreentravel.org or <http://staging.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen.aspx>.



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

