*Virginia Green Lodging*
**Profile:**

# Morrison House Conference Center
## Alexandria

***Virginia Green*** is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. ***Virginia Green*** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, ***Virginia Green*** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

## Morrison House Conference Center

**Green Statement:** "The Morrison House is a proud member of Kimpton Hotel's EarthCare program, a pioneering effort in the travel industry to incorporate environmental practices into daily hotel operations. Learn more at www.morrisonhouse.com"

## CORE ACTIVITIES for Conference Centers

"☑" This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Conference Centers. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Morrison House Conference Center** can expect the following practices:

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** All conference centers must provide for recycling at their events. Aluminum can and plastic bottle recycling are a must. Recycling of steel cans, cardboard, office paper, and composting of waste foods are encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment, cell phones
- Clearly marked recycling bins in all guest rooms, meeting rooms and common areas
- Track overall waste bills
- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill

*kitchen (or meetings/events)*

- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Purchase organic and/or "sustainably-grown" foods

*dining room (or meetings/events)*

- Use reusable dishware and glassware & minimize use of disposables
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Use menus and table placards as opportunity to communicate green activities:

- Print menus on recycled content paper with soy-based inks and include recycling symbols, recycled-content, and message about soy-based inks on printed material
- Use screen-based ordering systems

*Rest rooms*

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use high-efficiency hand-dryers
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper

*office/purchasing*

- Use a last-in/first-out inventory & effective labeling systems
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2-sided copies / printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms

*building and grounds*

- Using "green" Cleaners (www.greenseal.org) 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 that are low-VOC
- Properly recycle and/or disposal of thinners and solvents (required by EPA-RCRA)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Use "integrated pest management" (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers in landscaping

☑ **Styrofoam elimination and reduction of disposables.** Virginia Green Conference centers are encouraged to eliminate or minimize the use of Styrofoam-based products and to use alternative disposables that are made of natural products and/or are bio-degradable. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable containers that are:
  - Made from bio-based materials
  - Compostable
  - 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
- Have a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have:
  - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
  - low flow toilets
  - automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first) and use microfiber technology mops
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective stormwater management plan
- No longer power washing public spaces

☑ **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
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Have an "energy management system" in place to track and meter energy usage
- Evaluate existing ovens and other kitchen equipment for energy efficiency

- Have considered upgrading to an EnergyStar Commercial Kitchen Package
- Use:
    - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
    - LED Exit Signs
    - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed additional insulation
- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances
- Have thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Use directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas

☑ **Green Events Package.** Virginia Green conference centers 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
- All Kimpton Hotels have a Green Meeting Program

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For more information on **Morrison House Conference Center**, see **www.morrisonhouse.com** or contact **Robert Hannigan** at **Robert.hannigan@morrisonhouse.com** or **703-838-8000**.

For more information on the ***Virginia Green*** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen/homepage.html or go to www.virginiagreentravel.org.

***Virginia Green*** is the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.