



## Virginia Green Lodging Profile:



### THE INN AT VIRGINIA TECH AND SKELTON CONFERENCE CENTER Blacksburg, 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* 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.

#### CORE ACTIVITIES for The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center

☑ 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 **Inn at Virginia Tech** 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, steel cans, food waste (composting), toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, electronic equipment
- Track overall waste bills  
*kitchen (or meetings/events)*
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste  
*dining room (or meetings/events)*
- Provide condiments and cream and sugar etc. in bulk
- 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*
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paints that are low-VOC

- Re-use paint thinners
- 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

**Minimization of disposable food service products.** Virginia Green Conference centers are encouraged to eliminate or minimize the use of polystyrene foam products and to use alternative disposables that are made of natural products and/or are bio-degradable. This facility pledges that they:

- Do not use polystyrene foam products

**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:
  - high efficiency dishwashers
  - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
  - low flow toilets
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective stormwater management plan



**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:

- 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
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Use natural lighting
- 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

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For more information on **The Inn at Virginia Tech & Skelton Conference Center**, see [www.innatvirginiatech.com](http://www.innatvirginiatech.com) or contact **Chris Compton** at [ccompton@vt.edu](mailto:ccompton@vt.edu) or **540-231-0151**.

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



*Virginia Green* is the Commonwealth’s campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in 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.

