



Virginia Green Conference Centers

THE WESTIN

RICHMOND

"The Westin Richmond is conveniently located on Broad Street just off of Interstate 64 at Reynolds Crossing. Find all the personal touches you need to retreat from the rigors of travel and emerge revitalized and renewed. Our AAA 4-Diamond, seven-story, contemporary, full service, state-of-the-art hotel is centrally located to the many local attractions and landmarks that Richmond has to offer. We strive to create a restorative atmosphere by anticipating your needs and tending to them intuitively. Our 250 superbly comfortable guest rooms and over 10,000 square feet of meeting space feature many wonderful amenities, which will replenish your body and elevate your senses."



Green Statement: "The Westin Richmond believes that economic growth and the well being of society are inextricably tied to the health of the environment. Accordingly, we embrace our responsibility for environmental stewardship and are committed to integration leading environmental practices and sustainability principles into our core business strategy."

GREEN ACTIVITIES

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
- 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: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans, newspaper, office paper
- Have recycling bins located: in guest rooms
- Also recycle office paper, toner cartridges, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment

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

- Track overall solid waste costs

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

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
- 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:

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)
 - Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes metering and rain gauges and minimizes lawn areas
- 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

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- 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

Lighting

- Use natural 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 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

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



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
- Reduce waste by offering clutter free meetings. Pads and pens are made available to those needing them rather than for each attendee.
- Use water pitchers vs. water bottles.
- Offer linen-less meeting tables to reduce need for washing of linens.

For more information on The Westin Richmond see www.westin.com/richmond or contact Feliks Schwartz at westin.gm@musselmanhotels.com or 804-282-8444.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia’s campaign to promote 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. The program has established “core activities” specific to each sector of tourism; these practices are the minimum requirements for participation in the program, but encourages participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations. **Virginia Green Partners** are committing to help support the program and encourage their customers to join or do business with Virginia Green-certified participants. Although not necessarily tourism facilities themselves, Partners are expected to practice green activities in their own facilities as well. For more information on **Virginia Green**, see go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.

