



# Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



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## Alexander House Charlottesville, VA



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**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.

## Alexander House

We are an eco-friendly Inn and Hostel. Comfortable, affordable lodging conveniently located in Charlottesville.

We take great effort and pride in being a positive impact on our environment. We want to be part of a larger force of change.

Our continental breakfasts are local and/or organic. We have beautiful edible gardens for guests to use and enjoy. We rent bikes for the optimum eco-friendly way to explore Charlottesville.

### Virginia Green Activities

#### This facility pledges that they:

##### Offer optional linen service

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Change linens only upon request
- Train housekeeping staff on our process for optional linen service
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Line dry linens whenever possible

## Recycle

- Have in place clearly marked recycling bins or provide convenient drop-off locations for guests to recycle:

- Glass Bottles
- Plastic Bottles
- Aluminum cans
- Steel cans
- Newspaper
- Office paper

Other items recycled by the facility:

- Cardboard
- Fluorescent lamps
- Batteries
- Electronics equipment such as computers, etc.

## Reduce solid waste

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps/shampoos in guest rooms
- Use refillable shampoo bottles rather than single-use bottles
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items
- Donate excess food from events
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste
- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups
- Use cloth napkins
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
- 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
- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex, low or no-VOC paints
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

- Other Activities: edible landscaping

### **Use water efficiently**

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- 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
- Have installed low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
- Have installed low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
- Have landscaping that utilizes native species
- Use rain gauges and water meters and only irrigate when necessary
- Have minimized our lawn area
- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Have installed rain barrels
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers

### **Conserve energy**

- Track overall energy bills
- Have installed ceiling fans
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on
- Use natural lighting (i.e., open draperies and raise shades whenever adequate light from windows is available)
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
- Use alternative fuel, hybrid-electric, or electric vehicles
- Have installed a solar water heating system
- Other Activities: 4 out of the 6 owners travel exclusively by bicycle

### **Offer a green events package**

- We do not host conferences or events
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For more information on **Alexander House**, see [www.alexanderhouse.us/](http://www.alexanderhouse.us/) or contact misty vredenborg at [alexanderhousebooking@gmail.com](mailto:alexanderhousebooking@gmail.com) or 434-327-6447.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see [www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen.aspx](http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen.aspx).



**Virginia Green** is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

