



# Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



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## Cair Paravel Farm's Blue Ridge Mountain Yurt Stanardsville, 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.

### Cair Paravel Farm's Blue Ridge Mountain Yurt

The yurt with room for six guests, has a main level with large, open living/dining area, a private bathroom with tub and shower, a spacious master bedroom with a luxurious queen bed and a fully equipped kitchen area featuring a gas range, fridge, microwave, toaster, and dishwasher. The bowtie shaped loft which overlooks the open half of the main level can accommodate up to four additional guests with a queen futon and two twin beds.

For over a half century the Cair Paravel mountain property has been under the stewardship of the Cullander and Ledford families. Throughout that time every effort has been made to minimize the impact on and improve the health of the fragile mountain environment.

Cair Paravel Farmstead and Lodgings is a family run enterprise. We are a small farm that employs permaculture practices and raises and sells pasture raised chicken, lamb, pork, and turkey. In addition we have seasonally available surplus vegetable and fruits from our gardens and orchards. The critters in addition to the natural forage are supplemented with non-GMO soy free feed from Sunrise farms. Walking the wonderful hiking trails crisscrossing the 58 acre mountainside property offers spectacular views as well as abundant flora and fauna native to the area. We are engaged in a number of environmental projects which include water/soil conservation and improvement as well as invasive species control.

### 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

- Track optional linen participation rate
- Purchase water- and energy-efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use a service that has environmentally-preferable wet cleaning for dry-clean only items
- Line dry linens whenever possible
- Other Activities: Use quick dry towels.

## 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:

- Printer/ copy machine toner cartridges
- Cardboard
- Fluorescent lamps
- Batteries
- Electronics equipment such as computers, etc.
- Other Activities: Use cardboard for farm and garden mulching.

## Reduce solid waste

- Track overall solid waste costs
- 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
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups
- Use cloth napkins
- Use reusable coffee filters
- 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.)
- Use refillable pens and toner cartridges

- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible
- 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
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents
- 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: Any pesticides and herbicides are certified for organic growers.

### Use water efficiently

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- 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
- Have minimized our lawn area
- Have installed pervious pavement to reduce storm water runoff
- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Have installed rain barrels
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Other Activities: Use on farm composted manure and recycled wood chips for fertilizer.

### Conserve energy

- Track overall energy bills
- Have individual thermostats for each room; ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have installed a high efficiency 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)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T-5 and T-8)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- 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 devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
- Generate electricity from photovoltaic solar panels
- Have installed a solar water heating system



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For more information on **Cair Paravel Farm's Blue Ridge Mountain Yurt**, see [cairparavelfarmstead.com](http://cairparavelfarmstead.com) or contact Whitt and Martha Ledford at [cparavel@gmail.com](mailto:cparavel@gmail.com) or 434-987-6901.

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).



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