



# Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



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## Hikers Inn Damascus, 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.

### Hikers Inn

Small inn and hostel. We look for any opportunity to consume less and to use environmentally friendly products.

We strive to be more and more environmentally friendly in our operations: to find affordable, allergen-free products and to make environmentally friendly options easy for our guests (especially with non-verbal cues rather than onerous, irritating signage).

We prefer local products and foods personally and love to promote those options to our guests. In addition we constantly promote the idea of parking your car and enjoying our town by walking or biking.

### Virginia Green Activities

#### This facility pledges that they:

##### Offer optional linen service

- Change linens only upon request
- Train housekeeping staff on our process for optional linen service
- Purchase water- and energy-efficient washers and dryers
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals

##### 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.

### **Reduce solid waste**

- Track overall solid waste costs
- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps/shampoos in guest rooms
- Donate excess food from events
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups
- Use cloth napkins
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- 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
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

### **Use water efficiently**

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- 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 installed pervious pavement to reduce storm water runoff
- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)

### **Conserve energy**

- Track overall energy bills
- Have installed ceiling fans
- 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 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



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For more information on **Hikers Inn**, see [hikersinndamascus.com](http://hikersinndamascus.com) or contact Lee Lewis at [hikersinn@gmail.com](mailto:hikersinn@gmail.com) or 276-475-3788.

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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