



Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel Virginia Beach, VA



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.

Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel

Sheraton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel is located at the exclusive northern end of the Virginia Beach boardwalk. Our hotel offers a relaxing atmosphere, right in the middle of all Virginia Beach has to offer. Direct beach access, indoor/outdoor pools and upscale dining are just a few of the great amenities you can expect when you stay here.

Starwood is committed to doing more to consume less and caring for our planet. Our environmental policy addresses six areas of opportunity, and we are getting started with initial worldwide focus on Energy & Water - 30/20 by 20.

Doante all used soaps and shampoos to Clean the World.

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

Recycle

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

- Glass Bottles
- Plastic Bottles
- Aluminum 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
- Have a numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items
- Recycle fryer grease
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from renewable materials (not petroleum-based)
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
- Use and compost disposable containers made of compostable material (corn, bamboo, potato starch, sugarcane, etc.)
- 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 latex, low or no-VOC paints

- Re-use paint thinners
- 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)

Use water efficiently

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- 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 automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- 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 drip line irrigation
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers

Conserve energy

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time
- Calculate the environmental impacts of the facility's energy usage by using a pollution calculator
- Have individual thermostats for each room; ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- 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)
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- 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 LED Exit Signs
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning
- 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

Offer a green events package

- Include the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages (see the factsheet on Environmentally-Responsible Conferences & Events)

For more information on **Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel**, see www.sheratonvirginiabeach.com or contact Duane Gauthier at dgauthier@sheratonvirginiabeach.com or 757-425-9000.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see 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.

