



Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



The Homestead Hot Springs, 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.

The Homestead

The Homestead is a 483-room Premier Mountain Resort nestled in the Allegheny Mountains.

Guests have been visiting The Homestead since 1766 to enjoy the beautiful natural resources in the area. We want to do our part in keeping that a tradition for our guests for generations to come.

When possible we locally source seasonal food products. An example: Allegheny Mountain Rainbow Trout and Morel Mushrooms, and we utilize herbs grown in Homestead soil. We donate used printer / toner cartridges to a local elementary school who is able to redeem them for educational credits.

Virginia Green Activities

This facility pledges that they:

Offer optional linen service

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train housekeeping staff on our process for optional linen service
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals

Recycle

- Aluminum cans
- Newspaper

- Office paper

Other items recycled by the facility:

- Printer/ copy machine toner cartridges
- Cardboard

Reduce solid waste

- Track overall solid waste costs
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste
- Use cloth napkins
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- 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
- 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

- 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 landscaping that utilizes native species

Conserve energy

- Track overall energy bills
- Have individual thermostats for each room; ensure they are correctly adjusted
- 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)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting

Offer a green events package

- Include the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages (see the factsheet on Environmentally-Responsible Conferences & Events)
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For more information on **The Homestead**, see www.thehomestead.com or contact Jason Brown at Jason.L.Brown@thehomestead.com or 540-839-1766.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen.



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

