



Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



Woods Hole Hostel & Mountain Retreat Pearisburg, 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.

Woods Hole Hostel & Mountain Retreat

Woods Hole Hostel and Mountain Retreat is located 1/2 mile off the Appalachian Trail. We are a haven for Thru Hikers along the trail as well as unique retreat for guests looking to escape the hustle bustle of the city. We offer a unique retreat with a community experience (big and small). Available to Couples, Families, and more. We focus our energy on sustainable living through Organic Gardening, Animal Husbandry, Beekeeping, Sharing Yoga, Massage Therapy, and offering a unique and artistic setting for a retreat.

We decided to join Virginia Green because we are Green Minded. A lot of our time and energy goes towards being Green. We grow an Organic Garden that we share with guests in the preparation of meals. We Recycle everything we can. We reduce waste as much as possible and we Reuse what is practical. We hope that our lifestyle is an inspiration to those that visit.

In our effort to be sustainable we place emphasis on purchasing organic as often as practical or possible. We take extra strides in the purchase of items such as our Cheese, Flour, Spices, and even our Icecream. The bulk of our vegetables come from our own farm or a neighboring Amish Farm. Nothing we serve comes from a "box" or "can." This is the inspiration of our lifestyle and philosophy we have come to live by.

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
- 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

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
- 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
- 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
- Recycle fryer grease
- 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
- Use reusable coffee filters
- 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
- 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
- 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
- Re-use paint thinners
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

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
- 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 installed composting toilets
- Have landscaping that utilizes native species
- 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 installed ceiling fans
- 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)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Use alternative fuel, hybrid-electric, or electric vehicles
- Other Activities: Have installed LED Light bulbs and Installed an Outdoor Furnace for Heating Water and Air

Offer a green events package

-



For more information on **Woods Hole Hostel & Mountain Retreat**, see www.woodsholehostel.com or contact Neville Harris at woodsholehostel@gmail.com or 540-921-3444.

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.

