
Grace Manor Inn

Bed and Breakfast

Richmond, Virginia

Virginia Green Lodging is the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) initiative to promote pollution prevention (P2) practices in the tourism and hospitality industry. **Green Lodging** encourages hotels, resorts, and other hospitality operations to be aware of their impact on the environment and to take steps to reduce these impacts. **Green Lodging** is a non-regulatory program, and participation is completely voluntary and free of charge.

Grace Manor Inn

The Grace Manor Inn decided to "go green," because we wanted to find a way to decrease our footprint on the environment. In particular, we were shocked by the amount of trash that we produced each week as a Bed & Breakfast. So our greening-up began with recycling. That led to adding secondary green trashcans to each of the guest suites, so that they could recycle too. As we paid attention to recycling, we started to become more aware of food waste. So, we started composting our kitchen scraps. We already had established herbs, cherry trees, and fig trees on the property. Last year, we added Asian pears, and this year, we were inspired to add a roof-top vegetable and herb garden. We're hoping that we will be able to use these fresh vegetables for our breakfasts at the Inn. Additionally, we added remote control light sensors that allow us to turn off all of the lights on the main floor of the house with a click of the button. This allows us to turn on lights at the moment that guests arrive, rather than starting an hour in advance to make the house welcoming. Since year number one, we've been offering our guests an optional linen service, which enables us to use less water and chemicals when they choose to use their towels for a second time. We also offer a Going Green Special which rewards guests who arrive in a hybrid vehicle with \$20 off their stay.



Green Lodging Activities. When visiting Grace Manor Inn, you can expect the following practices:

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Lodging

- Optional Linen Service.** Sheets and towels are not automatically changed every day during your stay.
 - Train house cleaners on process of optional linen service
 - Linen segregation and gentle cycle for lightly soiled loads
- Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Green Lodging Facilities must provide recycling. Recycling should be highly visible and made available to guests with clear signage. A general commitment to reducing total amount of waste should be made.
 - Recycle: Cans, Bottles, Newspaper, Paper, Cardboard, Scrap Metal, Filters
 - Fill reusable bottles
 - Use dishware and glassware to minimize use of disposables
 - Cloth napkins
 - Implement effective food inventory system to minimize waste
 - Compost food wastes

- Purchase recycled content paper
- Purchase durable, well-made products with a long life
- Extensive use of electronic documents and records
- Reuse or donate materials
- Effective system of storage, labeling and handling
- Use reused building materials such as stonework, fixtures, and windows
- Roof top vegetable and herb garden

Water Conservation. The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping.

- Preventative maintenance of drips and leaks
- Dishwashers that recirculate
- Integrated Pest Management
- Minimize impervious surfaces
- Organic fertilizers, efficiently timed applications
- Abundance of indoor plants
- Water efficient washers
- Policy for dry clean up methods instead of using water

Energy Conservation. The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives.

- Lighting sensors
- Use high efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs in rooms and spotlights
- Purchase EnergyStar computers and appliances
- Storm windows
- Energy efficient dryers
- Preventative maintenance on vehicles and equipment
- Last-in/first-out inventory
- Eliminating use of aerosols
- Use of latex paint

Green Events Package. The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided.

For more information on **Grace Manor Inn**, see www.thegracemanorinn.com or contact Dawn Schick at innkeeper@thegracemanorinn.com.

For more information on **Virginia Green Lodging** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging.



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of **Virginia Green**, the Commonwealth’s campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices is all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. Virginia Green is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

