



# Stafford County, Virginia Department of Economic Development & Tourism Stafford, Virginia



"The offices of Tourism and Economic Development in Stafford promote recreational opportunities and business growth and expansion to

enhance the quality of life for the existing Stafford County citizens and workforce, and others who visit the community."

**Green Statement:** "The County is pleased to practice and promote environmental stewardship. Not only is supporting this program and encouraging the business and tourism communities to join in the effort good for the environment, it also comes with a marketing perk!"



## CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Supporting Organizations

- Support Virginia Green.** Pledge to promote the efforts of Virginia Green to your clients, members, and staff and encourage them to join or do business with Virginia Green participants. This supporting organization pledges that they:
  - Encourage clients who are in the tourism industry to join Virginia Green.
  - Strive to design projects that minimize overall environmental impacts and incorporate the use of efficient systems and sustainable materials.
  - Establish a travel / conference policy that encourages employees to stay in / do business with Virginia Green or similarly-minded facilities.
  - Send out an email or a mailer to its membership about Virginia Green.
  - Make an official Virginia Green Endorsement of some kind through its Board or other Committee to support Virginia Green.
  - Include a Virginia Green feature in its newsletter or other publication.
  - Display its Virginia Green certificate prominently in its facility / offices and use the Virginia Green window decals.
  - Use the Virginia Green logo on signage pointing out recycling or other "green" improvements in its facility.
  - Highlight its involvement in Virginia Green on its website and have a link to its Virginia Green facility profile.
  
- Green Meetings and Conferences.** Provide recycling and make an effort to reduce the use of disposables at meetings and conferences. This partner pledges that they:
  - Have their conferences at a Virginia Green facility, and let the facility know that they want a "green event!"
  - Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
  - Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
  - Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc., in bulk

**This association has office or retail space and is required to address the basic Virginia Green elements in its facility:**

- Recycling.** Virginia Green Travel Association must have highly-visible locations/containers that provide the opportunity for guests to recycle aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles, or other disposable products purchased at the facility. Recycling of cardboard, plastic, paper, and composting of waste foods is highly encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:
- Offer the opportunity for guests to recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, aluminum cans
  - Also recycle: newspaper, office paper, cardboard, electronic equipment, IT equipment
  - In addition to recycling and eliminating the purchase of products for meetings that add to waste, the community R-Board incentivizes recycling all materials by reducing the cost of entering the County's landfill when products are being recycled. (Dump trucks are charged at the landfill based on weight and all recyclables are subtracted from the weight and entrance fee.)

- Reduce solid waste.** The facility must be actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

*Restrooms*

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps

*Office*

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

- Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater

*Activities indoors*

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use

*Activities outdoors*

- Have an effective landscape management plan that utilizes native species

- Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages energy conservation and efficiency. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills

*Lighting*

- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms



For more information on Stafford County, Virginia Department of Economic Development & Tourism, see [www.GoStaffordVA.com](http://www.GoStaffordVA.com) or contact Bethany J. Miller at [bmiller@co.stafford.va.us](mailto:bmiller@co.stafford.va.us) or 540-658-4580.

**Virginia Green** is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Supporting Organizations** pledged to minimize their impacts on the environment. This organization has met the established "core activities" for **Green Supporting Organizations** and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see [www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen) or [www.viriniagreentravel.org](http://www.viriniagreentravel.org).



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

