



Virginia Green Supporting Organizations Profile:

Arlington Convention and Visitors Service



110 N Glebe Road, Suite 1500
Arlington

"As Arlington County's destination marketing organization, the Arlington Convention and Visitors Service (ACVS) markets Arlington as the best destination in which to stay, shop, dine and be entertained when visiting or meeting in the greater Washington, D.C., area given Arlington's perfect mix of national history and local flavor."

Green Statement: "The Arlington Convention and Visitors Service (ACVS) is dedicated to supporting and leveraging sustainability-related initiatives of the Arlington County Government, Virginia Government and local hospitality related businesses to meet current visitor usage needs and ensure the use of tourism resources by future generations. Arlington County is committed to sustainability and has many programs supporting policies and programs. Examples include:

- The Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE) focuses on reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in the public and private sectors. The Community Energy Plan guides AIRE activities and establishes short and long term emissions targets. Arlington established a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 75% by 2050.
- Arlington's green building incentive program offers private developers specific amounts of density in exchange for achieving certification using the LEED green building rating system. Several hotels are LEED certified in Arlington as a result of this program.
- Arlington's lighting rebate program for commercial entities provides financial rebates for participants who make significant lighting retrofits to reduce energy use.
- The new Stormwater Management Plan outlines stringent requirements for mitigating stormwater pollution throughout the County.
- The Household Hazardous Waste program collects materials from residents to avoid inappropriate disposal.
- The Environmental Preferable Purchasing Policy guides purchasing to ensure that only necessary items are purchased, recycled content is a priority, and that electronics are Energy Star labeled.
- Arlington's comprehensive Solid Waste Ordinance stipulates that residents and businesses recycle a comprehensive list of materials including mixed paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, and metal."

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.
- Carry and promote environmentally-friendly products and provide services that minimize the use of harmful chemicals and materials.
- Send out an email or a mailer to its membership about 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.

- 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:

- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Avoid box lunches by purchasing trays/platters of food instead.

This association leases its office or retail space and has met with the landlord to advise that environmental issues are important to the organization. The association has informed the landlord about Virginia Green and the potential costs and environmental benefits.

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, batteries, electronic equipment

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

- Track overall waste bills

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers instead of individual soaps
- Purchase recycled content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies
- 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

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
- Have installed:
 - low flow toilets
 - automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms

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

Transportation-related energy use

- Use alternative fuel, hybrid-electric, or electric vehicles

For more information on Arlington Convention and Visitors Service, see www.stayarlington.com or contact Courtney Cacatian at ccacatian@arlingtonva.us or 703-228-0877.

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 or 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.

