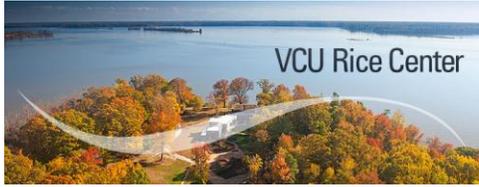




Virginia Green Supporting Organizations Profile:



VCU Rice Rivers Center 3701 John Tyler Memorial Highway Charles City

"The Inger and Walter Rice Rivers Center for Environmental Life Sciences is Virginia Commonwealth University's field station devoted to a broad array of environmental research, teaching and public service. A primary focus of research at the site is on the science and policy of large rivers and their fringing riparian and wetland landscapes, with the broad and scenic James River as the focal point of that research. The center also is very active in undergraduate and graduate educational activities, providing field-based instruction for a number of courses taught at VCU. Many outreach education programs also are taught throughout the year at the center, focused on environmental education for K-12 schoolchildren, their teachers and lifelong learners."

Green Statement: "The Rice Rivers Center promotes a better understanding and knowledge of the environment, the rivers and the natural resources that nourish life. The RRC also houses the VA Oyster Shell Recycling Program to return used oyster shells to the VA portion of the Chesapeake Bay in support of Bay restoration and oyster replenishment. As a research and policy facility to nurture better natural resource management, the RRC provides hands on activities and opportunities to change behavior. The RRC was the first LEED Platinum facility in Virginia."

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
- 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.

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



☑ **Recycling.** Virginia Green Supporting Organization 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
- Oversee regional oyster shell recycling program: Virginia Oyster Shell Recycling Program

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

Activities indoors

- Have installed:
 - low flow toilets

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan that utilizes native species and minimizes lawn areas
- Have an effective stormwater management plan which includes:
 - rain gardens
 - pervious pavement
 - minimization of impervious areas
- Have installed:
 - green roof
 - cisterns
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds



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

Heating and Cooling

- Have installed ceiling fans
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights

Source of energy

- Generate electricity from photovoltaic solar panels

Building construction and renovation

- Achieved LEED certification at the Platinum level during the facility's construction

For more information on VCU Rice Rivers Center, see www.vcu.edu/rice/index.html or contact Len Smock at lsmock@vcu.edu or 804-827-5600.

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.

