



Infinity Acres Ranch LLC Ridgeway, Virginia



Infinity Acres Ranch LLC is an agri-tourism facility. We embrace Virginia's historically rich agricultural history and invite guests to see a working ranch in an interactive forum. We combine domestic and exotic animals to demonstrate the amazing creatures of the world, to promote preservation of habitats, and to spark an interest to learn more about various species. We hope that each individual becomes inspired to contribute to improving our world's environment.

Infinity Acres Ranch LLC promotes "naturally green" products that are from our "renewable resources;" namely, our animals. Alpacas, llamas, angora goats, and rabbits produce fleece that is harvested by periodic shearing. Other products include fresh eggs from our poultry and nitrogen rich fertilizer from composted manure. We practice pasture rotation, bale our own hay, and work with both the USDA & NRC for optimal efforts for healthy animals and water conservation practices. Guest to our Petting Ranch are educated on the need to respect and preserve natural resources and are encouraged to recycle and to appreciate the need to respect our environment.

Green Statement: "Infinity Acres Ranch LLC is excited to be part of the Virginia Green initiative. We are proud to participate as an environmentally responsible facility to do our part to support and encourage conservation and preservation and to promote recycling. Our goal is to contribute towards providing a healthier world to pass along to future generations."



CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions

Recycling. Virginia Green facilities 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: plastic bottles and aluminum cans
- Also recycle: newspaper, toner cartridges, cardboard, batteries, electronic equipment

Minimize the use of disposable food service products. The facility is required to minimize the use of disposable food service products and maximize the use of food service products that are recyclable or compostable in the food service area. When disposable food service items are used, the facility is encouraged to use products that are made from bio-based or renewable resources, and to provide for the collection / recycling/ composting of food service items disposed of on the premises. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)

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 in public restrooms

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Buildings and grounds

- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

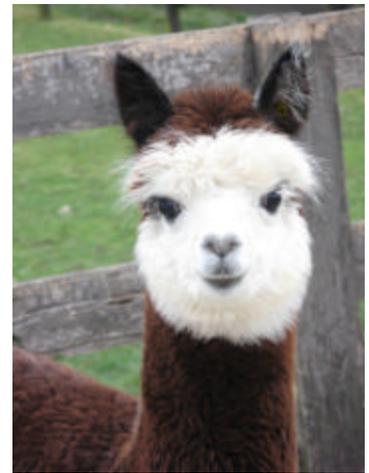
Use water efficiently. The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its water use. This facility pledges that they:

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed:
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)
 - Waterless urinals

Activities outdoors

- Have landscaping that utilizes native species
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Utilize automatic watering systems for many of our livestock
- Fenced off the pond and creeks
- Have planted 88 hardwood barrier near creek per NRC recommendation
- Work with NRC for water management practices



Conserve energy. The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its energy use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills

Heating and cooling

- Have installed ceiling fans
- Have installed timers on fans and water heaters
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have installed timers on lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
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For more information on **Infinity Acres Ranch LLC**, see www.Infinityacres.org
or contact Laura and Rick Steere at infinityacresva@gmail.com
or (276) 358-2378.

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green Attractions** have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established "core activities" for **Green Attractions** 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.

