



Virginia Green Lodging Profile:



Omni Charlottesville Hotel



Charlottesville, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia’s campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia’s tourism industry. Virginia Green has established “core activities” specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, Virginia Green encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their “green” activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Omni Hotel

“The Omni Charlottesville Hotel is a full-service hotel in the heart of Charlottesville. The hotel has 208 guestrooms.”

Green Statement: “Our hotel decided to ‘Go Green’ in order to reaffirm our commitment to the environment and in support of environmental initiatives.”



CORE ACTIVITIES for Lodging

“☑” This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Omni Hotel** can expect the following practices:

Optional Linen Service. Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Change linens only upon request
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic, and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use and “ozone laundry system” that greatly minimizes need for detergent and saves water
- Omni promotes our environmental commitment with regards to the Linen Service through our Select Guest Program

Recycling and Waste Reduction. Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: glass, aluminum cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Provide clearly marked recycling bins in parking lot and in meeting rooms with our Virginia Green Meeting Package
- Track overall waste bills
- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill

- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items
- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Do not use Styrofoam
- When disposable containers are used, they are made from recycled content materials
- Use reusable dishware and glassware, and minimize use of disposables
- Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Use menus and table placards as an opportunity to communicate green activities
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Use a last-in/first-out inventory and labeling system
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers

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
- Have a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have:
 - high efficiency dishwashers
 - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
 - low flow toilets
 - automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species

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

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Have an “energy management system” in place to track and meter energy usage
- Calculate the pollution factors of their energy usage
- Use:
 - LED Exit Signs
 - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
 - ceiling fans
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Use natural lighting
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances
- Have thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Use directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Use EnergyStar’s Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry

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. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages

- Locally sourced food options, filtered water in pitchers, candy/pen/pad upon request only; recycling of glass, paper and plastic available in meeting rooms, ceramic/washable dishware, compact fluorescent bulbs in meeting rooms, live plants instead of cut flowers, complimentary valet parking for hybrid automobiles.

For more information on **Omni Charlottesville Hotel**, see www.omnihotels.com or contact **Paul Maher** at pmaher@omnihotels.com or **434-971-5500**.

For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of *Virginia Green*, the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in 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.

