



## Virginia Green Lodging Profile:



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# Sheraton Richmond West

## Richmond, Virginia

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*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.

### Sheraton Richmond West

"Full service hotel and meeting facility. We offer 372 guestrooms and 31,000 square feet of meeting space."

**Green Statement:** "As responsible citizens with a concern for the environment, we are trying to change our operational procedures and adapt new policies where possible that will minimize our impact on the environment."

### 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 **Sheraton Richmond West** 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
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Use linens service providers that employ "wet" versus "dry" cleaning

☑ **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, steel cans, plastic, office paper, toner cartridges, newspaper, cardboard, packing supplies, fluorescent lamps, batteries, electronic equipment
- Provide clearly marked recycling bin in parking lot and set up recycle bins in individual meeting rooms as requested
- 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
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Use reusable dishware and glassware, and minimize use of disposables
- Use non-bleached napkins and coffee filters

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper
- Use a last-in/first-out inventory and labeling system
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2-sided copies/ printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Use “green” cleaners that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Use latex paints
- Properly recycle/dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- 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
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have:
  - low flow restrictors on faucets and showerheads
  - low flow toilets
  - automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweeping first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges

**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 an “energy management system” in place to track and meter energy usage
- Use:
  - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
  - LED Exit Signs
  - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed additional insulation
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances
- 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.

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For more information on Sheraton Richmond West, see [www.sheratonrichmond.com](http://www.sheratonrichmond.com) or contact Brett Ellison at [bellison@sheratonrichmond.com](mailto:bellison@sheratonrichmond.com) or 804-285-2000.

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

