



VirginiaGreenTravel.org

2015 Virginia Green Travel Star Awards



Virginia Green is the state's campaign to promote green practices in tourism. It is a voluntary, recognition program that is run through a unique partnership between the Virginia Tourism Corporation, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, and the Virginia Restaurant, Lodging and Travel Association. The Green Travel Stars are awarded annually and recognizes the efforts of participants of Virginia Green.

Travel Stars

Green Attraction of the Year: **Burnham Guides, Onancock**

- ✓ Practice the Leave No Trace ethics of outdoor travel.
- ✓ Organize the Onancock Creek section of the Clean the Bay Day, sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.
- ✓ Use kayaking trips as an opportunity to leave beaches and waterways cleaner than they were found.

Green Breweries of the Year: **Hardwood Park Craft Brewery, Richmond**

- ✓ Highly-visible recycling and waste reduction in place at all events.
- ✓ Locally-sources products and ingredients.
- ✓ Full support of environmental efforts, especially related to the restoration of the James River.

Green Breweries of the Year: **Wild Wolf Brewing Company, Nellysford**

- ✓ A goal of 98% waste reduction.
- ✓ Choose to use cans versus bottles resulting in waste avoidance.
- ✓ Composting ALL food wastes from restaurant and brew-making.
- ✓ Energy efficient HVAC systems and innovative wastewater systems.
- ✓ Great Virginia Green messaging!

Green Event of the Year: **2015 UCI Road World Championships, Richmond**

- ✓ 650,000 spectators | 315 green team volunteers
- ✓ 79,000 lbs of wastes recycled, composted or repurposed.
- ✓ Approximately 76% of all wastes diverted from landfills.
- ✓ A legacy of sustainable practices and community awareness for City of Richmond.

Green Hotel of the Year: **Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel**

- ✓ LEED-Gold Certified.
- ✓ Composting of all food wastes.
- ✓ Green meetings, energy and water efficiency.

Green B & B of the Year: Oak Grove Plantation B & B, Cluster Springs

- ✓ Oak Grove went “off-the-grid” in 2015 by installing 32 additional solar panels, bringing their total to 48.
- ✓ They now produce more energy than they use and they sell the rest back to the power company.
- ✓ They work with the VASUN Cooperative network to help make solar installations less costly.

Green Cabins of the Year: Shadow Mountain Escape, Luray

- ✓ Additional new cabin using timberline construction that dramatically increases energy efficiency and uses 30% lumber.
- ✓ Continued upgrades to their “stink-bug” bear-resistant recycling center and services!
- ✓ Full commitment to minimizing pesticides for healthy living!

Green Restaurant of the Year: Caffé Amouri, Vienna

- ✓ Composting, compostables, aggressive recycling and waste reduction.
- ✓ Local and sustainable food and beverages.
- ✓ Quality, Community, Sustainability.

Green Visitor Center of the Year: Virginia Beach Visitor Information Center

- ✓ Achieved LEED-Gold certification this year.
- ✓ Significant changes to lighting, HVAC, and product purchases.
- ✓ Demonstrated environmental commitment was important to supporting green tourism in Virginia Beach!

Green Winery of the Year: North Gate Vineyard, Purcellville

- ✓ Full solar roof produces 120% of all energy needs.
- ✓ Full commitments to waste reduction in all aspects of operation.
- ✓ 3-time award winner.

Green Supplier of the Year: Lumen Energy, Richmond

- ✓ Lumen is a certified provider of energy efficiency services through Dominion’s green energy services program.
- ✓ It has worked with many Virginia Green hotels and restaurants in the past year.

Green Convention Center of the Year: Virginia Beach Convention Center

- ✓ LEED Recertification – Only 5 in US have achieved this!
- ✓ LEED efforts continue to result in huge energy savings and the facility diverts more than 50% of wastes from landfill through recycling and composting all food wastes.
- ✓ More than 140 tons of food wastes were composted in 2015.

Green Conference Center of the Year: Airlie Conference Center, Warrenton

- ✓ Site of the original Virginia Green Lodging conference in 2005.
- ✓ Historic dedication to preservation & environmental research.
- ✓ A fully implemented Environmental Management System & Green Seal certified.
- ✓ Sustainable farming, living, and learning.

Most Innovative Green Projects of the Year

Green Weddings by Khimaira Farm, Luray

- ✓ Participates in Water Stewardship programs for farm operations.
- ✓ Comprehensive recycling and composting program, which includes reuse of materials for events.
- ✓ Use solar fans and solar lighting throughout the farm.

Dark Skies Initiative by Staunton River State Park, Scottsburg

- ✓ Replaced or altered all lights in the park so that they were downward-facing, focused and not wasted into the night.
- ✓ Also targeted unnecessary lighting and conservation.
- ✓ Project to be replicated at other state parks and facilities.

Zero Waste Project by Xanterra Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg

- ✓ Installed “bio-bin” collection system for all food wastes.
- ✓ Wastes are sent to local commercial compost facility.
- ✓ 3 restaurants, 3 golf courses, and 2 pool areas participate.
- ✓ 80%+ landfill diversion rate!

Composting & Urban Garden by the Hilton Downtown Richmond

- ✓ Hilton has been composting food wastes for 4 years, reducing landfill wastes by more than 14,000 lbs per year.
- ✓ Compost facility now donates bags of compost to Hilton for their roof-top herb gardens and herbs are used in their kitchen.

Electric Vehicle Charging Station by Croc’s 19th street Bistro, Virginia Beach

- ✓ Installation of 2 electric vehicle charging stations.
- ✓ Adding to sustainable profile of Croc’s that includes solar energy, composting, shell collection, and hosting the local farmer’s market.

Recycling and Sustainability by Richmond International Airport

- ✓ RIC has implemented dozens of energy, water and other environmental savings over the course of the past few years.
- ✓ In 2015 it implemented comprehensive recycling.
- ✓ AND... UCI / Virginia Green signage at concourse gates.

Pollinator Habitat Program by the Virginia Department of Transportation Welcome Centers

- ✓ VDOT Welcome Centers and Rest Areas have made great progress in recycling.
- ✓ New pollinator program reduces water consumption, chemical use, and mowing and helps local bees and crops.

Green Procurement for the 2015 UCI Road World Championships by Echelon Event Management, Richmond

- ✓ Worked with the UCI & vendors to REQUIRE the purchase and use of only eco-compostables at the UCI Worlds.
- ✓ Developed group purchasing arrangements to provide for lower prices.
- ✓ Has been a leader in green events and event composting for many other local events.

Travel Leaders

Adventure Kayak, Chesapeake

- ✓ Conduct Paddle In Trash Out (P.I.T.O) events which provide customers with free access to kayaks and equipment to keep Virginia clean.

Back Inn Time Bed & Breakfast, Kilmarnock

- ✓ Use the Pure Wash Laundry system.
- ✓ Commitment to energy reduction through geo-heating system, LED lighting, instant water heater, and use of a hybrid car.

Birdsong Pleasure Garden, Luray

- ✓ Recycling and composting programs.
- ✓ Use of drought-tolerant and native species.

Capital Ale House, Richmond

- ✓ Recycling at all 5 locations and at our festivals and events.
- ✓ Volunteerism through our Beer Corps employee volunteer programs.
- ✓ Partnering with local environmental programs.

Cary St. Café, Richmond

- ✓ Committed to grassroots recycling and reuse.
- ✓ Favorite projects include pickle-barrel composting and the Tervis tumbler for every employee initiative.

Clay Corner Inn, Blacksburg

- ✓ Educate all guests on how to follow sustainability practices.
- ✓ All amenities and products are eco-friendly and bio-degradable, including spa items.

Green Leaf and Pebble Tea Spa, Virginia Beach

- ✓ 100% commitment to sustainable practices, products, and experience.
- ✓ Focus on healthy living and environmental protection.

Go Green Distributors, Newport News

- ✓ Supplies a full line of green products and services to Virginia Green Restaurants.
- ✓ Products dramatically reduce food waste and energy usage.

Hungry Mother State Park, Marion

- ✓ Water efficiency improvements in restrooms.
- ✓ Thermostat and lighting replacements that are resulting in significant cost savings.

Keep Virginia Beautiful – UCI Richmond Beautification Projects

- ✓ Mobilized 518 volunteers for clean-up and revitalization in preparation for the UCI World Cycling Championships.
- ✓ 1000 lbs of recyclables collected.

Lansdowne Resort

- ✓ Green meetings and events are promoted and supported by guidance.
- ✓ Recycling and all green practices are standard at all events.
- ✓ Host green golf conferences and outings and golf course promotes sustainable practices.

Lickinghole Creek Craft Brewery, Goochland

- ✓ Growing our own hops and many of the other products we use in beer-making.
- ✓ Commitment to no pesticides and responsible land use.

Mountain Song Inn, Willis

- ✓ Educate all guests on how to follow sustainability practices.
- ✓ Comprehensive recycling and composting.
- ✓ Grow herbs and more on site.

Oystoberfest, Richmond

- ✓ Local church fundraiser with a full commitment to environmental responsibility.
- ✓ Recycling and oyster shell collection.

Peabody's 'Hip Little Stay', Luray

- ✓ B&B with complete commitment to reuse, restoration, and healthy living.
- ✓ Community garden, sustainable, organic, and local foods.

Port City Brewing Company, Alexandria

- ✓ Commitments to recycling, waste reduction, and to local sourcing of products.
- ✓ Energy efficiency efforts and savings.

Stonewall Jackson Inn Bed & Breakfast, Harrisonburg

- ✓ Significant commitments to waste reduction and recycling, water and energy conservation, and consumer involvement through signage and messaging.

The Westin Reston Heights

- ✓ Optional linen service, recycling and waste Reduction program, water conservation program, and energy conservation program.
- ✓ Participating in the Starwood 30/20/20 Sustainability program with a goal of reducing energy by 30% and water by 20% by 2020.

Virginia Aquarium Sensible Seafood Program, Virginia Beach

- ✓ Amazing program that helps Virginia restaurants make responsible choices about seafood products.
- ✓ Program hosts an amazing fundraiser supported by 20+ local restaurant partners.

Virginia Tech Dining Services, Blacksburg

- ✓ Project to provide reusable take-out containers to all students.
- ✓ Great waste reduction and environmental messaging.

White Flint Farm, Keeling

- ✓ Sustainable, chemical-free farm.
- ✓ Make some of their own products, or locally source them.
- ✓ Optional linen service, recycling and waste reduction program, water conservation program, and energy conservation program.