



# Virginia Green Hotels & Lodging Facilities



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## Courtyard Alexandria Pentagon South Alexandria, VA



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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.

## Courtyard Alexandria Pentagon South

We are a three star 203 room hotel in the West End of Alexandria Virginia. We are newly renovated which we are very excited about!

It is important to participate in helping conserve energy for a greener environment.

We participate in Clean the World which helps recycle soap products. Every day in North America, thousands of hotels discard millions of pounds of soap and shampoo. These products often end up in already overflowing landfills and contaminate fragile groundwater systems. Impoverished people around the world die every day from acute respiratory infection and diarrheal disease because they have no soap. The death toll is staggering. Each year more than five million lives are lost to these diseases with the majority of deaths being among children less than five years old. Studies have shown that simple hand washing substantially reduces the spread of these diseases. Clean the World gets soap to people who really need it. In an effort to prevent these needless deaths from occurring, Clean the World distributes recycled soap products, along with appropriate educational materials, to impoverished countries worldwide, and to domestic homeless shelters.

For more 'green' specific information : [www.courtyardpentagonsouth.com](http://www.courtyardpentagonsouth.com)

### Virginia Green Activities

#### This facility pledges that they:

##### Offer optional linen service

- Change linens only upon request

- Train housekeeping staff on our process for optional linen service
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize the use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Other Activities: We donate all partially used soap amenities to clean the world.

## Recycle

- Have in place clearly marked recycling bins or provide convenient drop-off locations for guests to recycle:

- Glass Bottles
- Aluminum cans
- Plastic Bottles
- Office paper

### Other items recycled by the facility:

- Printer/ copy machine toner cartridges
- Newspaper
- Cardboard

## Reduce solid waste

- Track overall solid waste costs
- Instruct housekeeping staff to save and reuse unopened items
- Have an effective food inventory control system to minimize waste
- Do not use any disposable containers, dishware, cutlery, or cups
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from renewable materials (not petroleum-based)
- Use disposable foodservice items that are made from recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
- Use cloth napkins
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
- 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.)
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible
- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles

- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

### Use water efficiently

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have installed waterless urinals
- Have installed automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Have landscaping that utilizes native species
- Have minimized our lawn area
- Other Activities: Scheduled Sprinkler System so it is never on for too long

### Conserve energy

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities within the past 12 months
- Use ENERGY STARs Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry
- Have individual thermostats for each room; ensure they are correctly adjusted
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T-5 and T-8)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and canned lighting
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning
- Use ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other devices in unoccupied rooms at the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used
- Earned the ENERGY STAR label for our building
- Other Activities: Shut down floors during low occupancy months to preserve energy.

### Offer a green events package

- Include the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages (see the factsheet on Environmentally-Responsible Conferences & Events)



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For more information on **Courtyard Alexandria Pentagon South**, see [www.courtyardpentagonsouth.com](http://www.courtyardpentagonsouth.com) or contact Marina Wagner at [marina.wagner@hershahotels.com](mailto:marina.wagner@hershahotels.com) or 703-751-4510.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see [www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen).



**Virginia Green** is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

