

Application for Full Virginia Green Certification

Use the [Virginia Green Application Resources](https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/pollution-prevention/virginia-green/virginia-green-application-resources) website for additional guidance on filling out the Virginia Green Application.

Section 1: Register Your Business Online

This application is part of the Virginia Green certification process. To certify your business, register online and upload this application during the registration process.

If your business is **already registered** with the Virginia Green Travel Business Directory:

1. Complete this application form.
2. [Log into your Virginia Green Travel Business Profile](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-login.php?redirect_to=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiagreen.net%2Fwp-admin%2F%3Fredirect_url%3Dhttps%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiagreen.net%2Fwp-admin%2Fedit.php%3Fpost_type%3Dwpbdp_listing&reauth=1).
3. Upload this application while completing the certification process.

To **register your business** with the Virginia Green Travel Business Directory:

1. Complete this application form.
2. [Register your business with the Virginia Green Travel Business Directory](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-login.php?action=register&redirect_to=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.virginiagreen.net%2Fthank-you-for-registering).
3. Upload this application while completing the certification process.

Section 2: Background

Applicant Contact Information:

Name of Business: Click or tap here to enter text.

Website: Click or tap here to enter text.

Address Line 1: Click or tap here to enter text.
Address Line 2: Click or tap here to enter text.
City: Click or tap here to enter text.
State: Click or tap here to enter text. Zip: Click or tap here to enter text.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Contact 1 | Contact 2 |
| Name: Click or tap here to enter text. | Name: Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Phone: Click or tap here to enter text. | Phone: Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Email: Click or tap here to enter text. | Email: Click or tap here to enter text. |

Facility Type (please check one):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|[ ]  Attraction |[ ]  Restaurant |
|[ ]  Brewery\* |[ ]  Transportation Facility / Service Provider |
|[ ]  Campground |[ ]  Welcome Center / Visitor Center |
|[ ]  Conference/Convention Center |[ ]  Winery\* |
|[ ]  Golf Course\* |[ ]  Other: Click or tap here to enter text. |
|[ ]  Lodging\* – if so, how many overnight rooms? Click or tap here to enter text. |

\*See appendix specific to facility type in Section 12, with additional activities specific to facility type.

Why is committing to be a Virginia Green facility important to you?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 3: Leadership

All Virginia Green members must have a leadership structure that assumes responsibility for maintaining the Virginia Green program commitments.

Green Team

It is **\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** that you check at least one of the boxes below.

[ ]  We have a Green Team in place consisting of employees representing core operational functions.

[ ]  We meet regularly to discuss environmental efforts.

[ ]  We have a written plan in place mapping out future goals and projects.

[ ]  Virginia Green/environmental efforts are included in staff training.

[ ]  We have a designated Green Team Leader responsible for Virginia Green/environmental commitments.

[ ]  We have developed an environmental policy or mission statement.

[ ]  Other Details

Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 4: Recycling

The following waste reduction activities are required for all Virginia Green members.

Tracking

[ ]  We track waste and recycling costs.

[ ]  We have calculated a recycling rate for our facility (this can be an estimate).

We recycle the following items **\*\*REQUIRED BY LAW\*\***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Recycle** | **Do not use** |
| Fluorescent lamps and ballasts | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| NiCad and Lead-Acid Batteries | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| Electronics | [ ]  | [ ]  |

Customer Recycling

Please tell us how your guests recycle. Include pictures of collection areas (e.g., recycling cans in rooms, trash and recycling bins in the lobby, trash and recycling at outside entrances, behind bars, etc.). It is **\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** that you check at least **one** of the boxes below.

[ ]  We provide customers with the opportunity to recycle.

[ ]  We use an “eco-station” approach with co-located and well-labeled trash and recycling containers.

[ ]  Staff makes sure that all guest recyclables are managed properly.

[ ]  We have other ways that we allow customers to participate in recycling. **Please elaborate below.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Items Recycled by Your Facility

Mark the items that you are recycling. **\*\*MINIMUM OF 3 REQUIRED\*\***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Collected?** | **Item** | **Recycling Vendor and/or Details** |
|[ ]  Glass bottles |  |
|[ ]  Plastic bottles |  |
|[ ]  Aluminum cans |  |
|[ ]  Steel cans |  |
|[ ]  Paper |  |
|[ ]  Cardboard |  |
|[ ]  Pallets |  |
|[ ]  Compostables / food waste\* |  |
|[ ]  Plastic bags & wrap*(vendor ex: grocery store)* |  |
|[ ]  Other: Click or tap here to enter text. |

Virginia Green members are encouraged to provide the following information:

**Our recycling rate is**: Click or tap here to enter text.

We know the weight of trash and recycling and are providing it here:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Other Details?

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Numeric Goal**

[ ]  We have a numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Other Items Recycled

\*Items in these categories can have specific management requirements. Ensure waste items are managed in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

[ ]  Collect other specialized items for recycling via [TerraCycle](https://www.terracycle.com/en-US/).

 Please indicate which items: Click or tap here to enter text.

[ ]  Collect cigarette butts through [Keep Virginia Beautiful](https://keepvirginiabeautiful.org/programs/litter-prevention/#mission) or other vendor.

[ ]  Printer/copy machine toner cartridges.

[ ]  Grease/ used fryer oil. \*

[ ]  Waste paints and solvents. \*

[ ]  Corks

[ ]  [Oyster Shells](https://ricerivers.vcu.edu/research-and-restoration/virginia-oyster-shell-recycling-program/#:~:text=The%20Virginia%20Oyster%20Shell%20Recycling,areas%20in%20the%20Piankatank%20River.)

[ ]  Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Contamination of Recycling from Plastic Bags & Non-Recyclables

For most recycling haulers, plastic liners/bags are not allowed and loose recyclables must be dumped into the central recycling dumpster.

[ ]  We have trained our staff to dump recyclables out of plastic liners so that no plastic bags are included with other recyclables.

[ ]  We have placed clear signage on or near recycling dumpsters/containers reminding staff about the need to keep plastic bags, food wastes, and other non-recyclables out of recycling dumpsters.

Recycling is Not Feasible in Our Locality

[ ]  We are in an area where a comprehensive recycling program is not feasible.

Please provide a written explanation of the recycling opportunities you do offer.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**The Issue of Combined Trash & Recycling**

Is your vendor allowing you to mix trash and recycling together and then sorting recycling at their facility? This is not a preferred practice, but it is allowable only if it is effectively communicated to guests/customers. If you are instructing guests to put everything into 1 container, you must instruct them that you are sending it to a facility that sorts out the recyclables. Otherwise, you must continue to provide separate, co-located recycling and trash containers.

[ ]  Yes, we are being serviced by an “all-in-one” service provider.

Please provide details below on how you are communicating this to guests. A picture is required.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 5: Waste Reduction

The following waste reduction activities are required for all Virginia Green members.

[ ]  Do not use polystyrene **\*\*REQUIRED\*\***

If there are any items of this nature that you must use for some reason, please provide an explanation.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Straws** (**\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** that you check at least **one** of the boxes.)

[ ]  We eliminated the use of plastic drinking straws.

[ ]  We only provide straws upon request.

[ ]  We provide non-plastic straws such as paper, bamboo, etc.

In addition to the required activities, all Virginia Green members must identify at least four activities they have implemented to reduce waste. List the activities below. Use the [Virginia Green Application Resources](#WasteReductionGuide) for ideas on waste reduction strategies.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| Doing more? Let us know: |

Section 6: Energy Efficiency

The following activities are required for all Virginia Green members.

Tracking

It is **\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** that you check at least one of the boxes below.

[ ]  We track our energy costs.

[ ]  We track our energy usage.

[ ]  Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Virginia Green members are encouraged to provide the following information:

**Data/Progress**

If you are willing, please share a summary of annual energy use, costs, and progress.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Numeric Goal**

Have you established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time? Tell us about your goal.

Click or tap here to enter text.

In addition to the required activities, all Virginia Green members must identify at least four activities they have implemented to reduce waste. List the activities below. Use the [Virginia Green Application Resources](https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/pollution-prevention/virginia-green/virginia-green-application-resources) for ideas on waste reduction strategies.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| Doing more? Let us know: |

Section 7: Water Conservation

The following activities are required for all Virginia Green members.

Tracking

It is **\*\*REQUIRED\*\*** that you check at least one of the boxes below.

[ ]  We track costs for water.

[ ]  We track the amount of water that we use.

[ ]  Other Click or tap here to enter text.

In addition to the required activities, all Virginia Green members must identify at least four activities they have implemented to conserve water. List the activities below. Use the [Virginia Green Application Resources](https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/pollution-prevention/virginia-green/virginia-green-application-resources) for ideas on water conservation strategies.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| Doing more? Let us know: |

Section 8: Support Virginia Green

All Virginia Green members must identify at least two activities that support Virginia Green, like displaying the Virginia Green logo. List the activities below. Use the [Virginia Green Application Resources](https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/pollution-prevention/virginia-green/virginia-green-application-resources) for ideas on supporting Virginia Green strategies.

|  |
| --- |
| 1. |
| 2. |
| Doing more? Let us know: |

Section 9: Your Unique Business & Other Sustainability Practices

Please use this section to list any other practices that have not been covered above or to provide more detail on your organization’s efforts.

Section 10: Planning for the Future

Tell us two environmental projects or activities that you are planning to implement over the next 2 years. If you are looking for ideas, used the [Virginia Green Application Resources](https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/pollution-prevention/virginia-green/virginia-green-application-resources).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. |  |
| 2. |  |
|  | Doing more? Let us know: |

Section 11: Pictures & Logo

Including pictures of the following activities are required for all Virginia Green members.

Upload the following pictures while completing the application process in the Virginia Green Business Directory.

**Pictures**

[ ]  Recycling containers

* Include pictures of the recycling collection in front and back of house.

[ ]  Green Signage

* Include picture of signage used to inform costumers of what materials are recyclable.

[ ]  Logo

* Include a copy of your logo.

Section 12: Do you need to complete a secotr-specific Appendix?

If you are a LODGING facility, BREWERY, WINERY, or GOLF COURSE, please reference the appropriate APPENDIX listed / linked below. Please fill this out and submit / attach the Appendix + the Full Virginia Green Application when you are submitting [your new Virginia Green LISTING](https://www.virginiagreen.net/get-certified/#levels).

Complete the sector specific Virginia Green Application Appendix:

 [Lodging](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/VG-Appendix-for-Lodging-1.docx)

[Breweries](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/VG-Appendix-for-Breweries-1.docx)

 [Golf Courses](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/VG-Appendix-for-Golf-Courses-1.docx)

[Wineries](https://www.virginiagreen.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/VG-Appendix-Wineries-1.docx)

GREAT JOB!

Upload this application, and any applicable appendixes, to your registration in the Virginia Green Travel Business Directory to finish creating your profile.

Once you have completed the profile, Virginia Green Travel Alliance staff will review your certification in 3-4 business days. You will receive an email confirmation, a pdf certificate, and Virginia Green logo graphics. Next, your certification will be announced on social media and in the Virginia Green Travel Alliance newsletter.