**Virginia Green Attraction**

**Profile:**

**Constant Center at ODU**
Norfolk, 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 Attractions* have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize their impacts on the environment. This attraction has met the established “core activities” for *Green Attractions* and has committed to communicate its activities to its guests. Below is a list of this attraction’s “green” activities that guests can expect.

**Constant Convocation Center**

Located on the campus of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, the Constant Convocation Center is a multi-purpose arena, which opened in October 2002. The Constant Center is the home to the Old Dominion University Monarchs Men’s and Women’s basketball teams and host a wide variety of events including concerts, family shows, tradeshows and commencements.

**Green Statement:** “The Ted Constant Convocation Center has put into place many initiatives such as energy conservation (reducing usages on utilities), reducing the use of disposable products, reducing the amount of trash generated as well as recycling. We are committed to providing our guest an environmentally friendly facility.”

**Virginia Green Activities.** When visiting the Constant Center, you can expect the following practices:

**CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Attractions**

- **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Attractions provide highly-visible recycling opportunities for guests.
  - Tracking overall waste bills and quantities
  - Purchasing and designing cups to promote effective recycling
  - Donation of excess food from events
  - Effective food inventory control to minimize wastes
  - Locally grown produce and other foods
  - Non-bleached napkins and coffee filters
- Recycled-content paper towels and toilet tissue
- Encouraging suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Use 2-sided copying, electronic correspondence and forms, recycled-content paper
- Using “green” cleaners
- Purchase durable furniture and equipment
- Use of reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paint and least toxic materials
- Preventive maintenance on all vehicles and equipment
- Last-in/first-out inventory

✔ Minimize/Eliminate Styrofoam. Attractions work to minimize or eliminate the use of Styrofoam cups and plates in favor of products that are bio-based, paper, or recyclable.

✔ Water Efficiency. Attractions have a “plan” for conserving and using water efficiently.
  - Tracking overall water usage and wastewater
  - Preventive maintenance on drips and leaks
  - Water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
  - Discourage water based cleanup, sweep first
  - Micro-fiber technology mops
  - Low flow toilets and restrictors on faucets and showerheads
  - Effective landscape management plan which utilizes drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas

✔ Energy Conservation. Attractions have a “plan” that encourages energy conservation and efficiency.
  - Tracking overall energy bills
  - High Efficiency Heating and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
  - Use of natural lighting and lighting sensors
  - High efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs in all canned spotlights
  - High efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps
  - Purchase EnergyStar computers and appliances
  - Thermal rated windows and insulation
  - Use of directional lighting in parking lots and outdoor areas

✔ Green Events Package. Attractions provide at least recycling when they host special events.
  - Include “green meetings/conferences” in marketing packages

For more information on The Constant Center at ODU, see www.constantcenter.com or contact Mike Fryling at mfryling@odu.edu.

For more information on Virginia Green program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/virginiagreen.

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