

Virginia Beach Convention Center Sustainability Initiatives

RECYCLING

- The following items are collected in pre-function spaces, offices, meeting rooms, exhibit halls and all back of house spaces. Commingled materials are compacted and transported to an offsite recycling facility
 - ▶ Glass and Plastic bottles
 - ▶ Aluminum, Tin, and Steel cans
 - ▶ Paper, Cardboard, and Chipboard
- Mercury is captured from proper disposal of fluorescent lamps via an onsite disposal system
- Battery recycling from all hands-free plumbing devices, computer accessories, etc.
- Used cooking oil is removed from the site and recycled
- Steel, copper, aluminum, concrete and cinder blocks were recycled from our old convention center during demolition and some were reused as fill material in construction of our new center

ENERGY REDUCTION

- High Efficiency Heating & Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Lighting & HVAC systems programmed based on event schedules to minimize usage during non-peak times
- Timers and motion sensors that turn lights off when rooms are unoccupied
- Individual thermostats for meeting rooms and office spaces
- Extensive use of natural lighting
- Thermal-rated windows and insulation
- Energy efficient glass system that limits ultra violet (UV) light penetration in the large pre-function spaces
- A program has been initiated to upgrade incandescent lamps to more energy efficient compact fluorescent lighting or LED lighting
- Non-essential items turned off when spaces not in use such as escalators, video walls and similar items
- Tracking overall energy bills with established goals to reduce energy usage

WATER EFFICIENCY

- Tracking overall water usage and wastewater
- High efficiency dishwashers
- Microfiber technology mops
- Low flow restrictors on faucets
- Hand sinks and soap dispensers with motion sensors
- Effective landscape management plan which utilizes drought tolerant species, metering and rain gauges, and minimizes lawn areas
- Effective storm water management with vegetative buffers around storm ponds
- Automated irrigation system measures rain and limits irrigation demand
- Minimization of impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)

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WASTE REDUCTION & ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRACTICES

Food Services

- Eliminated the use of Styrofoam
- Use dishware and glassware to minimize use of disposables
- Concession stand disposable containers are made from:
 - ▶ Bio-based materials
 - ▶ Compostable
- Use water stations to minimize the use of single-use bottles
- Food overages are donated
- Food waste is composted
- Effective food inventory control to minimize wastes
- When available, purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Onsite seasonal herb and vegetable garden

Office/Purchasing

- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet tissue
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
 - ▶ Cleaning products
 - ▶ Printing vendors
 - ▶ Print cartridge suppliers
- 2-sided copies/printing
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Purchase recycled content paper
- Purchase of durable equipment and furniture

Maintenance

- Uses low or no VOC Latex Paint
- Proper recycling and/or disposal of thinners and solvents
- Aggressive carpet maintenance program to maximize the life of carpets
- Preventative maintenance of all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Last-in/first-out inventory & effective labeling systems
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides (integrated pest management practices)
- Use of environmentally-friendly housekeeping products including the following:
 - ▶ Recycled content paper products
 - ▶ Microfiber cloths and mops that are washed on site for reuse
 - ▶ "Green Label" vacuums and floor scrubbers for improved indoor air quality
 - ▶ Green Seal certified cleaning products

SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERS

