**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.

**Poseidon's Pantry Gourmet Grocery & Deli**

We are a specialty grocery and deli with a unique selection of gourmet goods, especially cheeses, chocolates, and craft beers. We make just about everything on our deli menu including our house-roasted turkey and roast beef.

It is important to us to have a smaller footprint than the normal business. Food service, especially to-go, can be very wasteful, and we work hard to minimize waste. We do not use any styrofoam containers at all, because, being located at the beach, we see a lot of the adverse environmental impacts of styrofoam.

Our bags are made from recycled materials and we only provide plastic upon the customer's request. We also encourage the use of reusable bags and will give them away to our customers (with a minimum purchase). We do not carry water in plastic bottles (or really any drinks in plastic bottles) as it is extremely wasteful and a major environmental concern. We carry local products in our grocery like honey, wine, and granola and hope to increase our Virginia products. Much of the food we use in our deli is organic and when in season it is also local.

**Virginia Green Activities**

**This facility pledges that they:**

**Minimize the use of disposable food service items**
- Use disposable containers that are made from recycled content paper
- Use disposable containers that are recyclable

**Recycle and Reduce Waste**
- Glass *(required for Virginia Green)*
- Aluminum Cans
- Steel Cans
- Plastic
- Toner Cartridges
- Newspaper
- Office Paper
- Cardboard
- Packing Supplies
- Cork
- Track overall waste bills
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Purchase organic and / or 'sustainably-grown' foods
- Use a last-in/first-out inventory & effective labeling systems
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Make 2 sided copies / printed materials
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials

**Use Water Efficiently**
- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Discourage water-based cleanup (sweep first)
- Have an effective landscape management plan
- Utilize drought tolerant species
- Have an effective storm water management plan
- Minimize impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)

**Conserve Energy**
- Track overall energy bills
- Use high efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Use ceiling fans
- Have a high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) system
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Purchase ENERGY STAR computers, appliances, etc.
- Use of directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
For more information on Poseidon's Pantry Gourmet Grocery & Deli, see www.poseidonspantry.com or contact Sarah Mason at sarah@poseidonspantry.com or 757-336-6666.

For more information on the Virginia Green program, see www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen.aspx.

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