



Heritage Oaks Golf Course Harrisonburg, Virginia

"Heritage Oaks Golf Course is a beautiful scenic course that is a challenge for golfers of all abilities. Owned by the City of Harrisonburg and designed by William Love, Heritage Oaks offers a wide variety of holes including links-style holes as well as traditional, tree-lined holes. Golfers of all abilities will enjoy playing this par 70 course as it offers four sets of tees on each hole with overall distances ranging from 6325 yards to 4542 yards.

Heritage Oaks has been voted Best of the Valley in 2012, 2011, 2009 & 2008 by the Daily News Record and Rocktown Weekly readers."

Green Statement: "Heritage Oaks Golf Course is committed to being a good steward through our use of green practices which includes being a leader in nutrient management and overall green initiatives in course management."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Golf Courses

- Have and implement a nutrient management plan.** The facility is required to have a nutrient management program that has been approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. This facility pledges that they:
 - Have a nutrient management plan developed by a Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner
 - Have soil tests performed at least once every three years for all fertilized areas: tees, fairways, roughs, greens, common areas, clubhouse lawns, flower beds, etc.
 - Maximize nutrient uptake and runoff is reduced by applying the proper rates and controlling the timing of applications
 - Adjust use of fertilizer to meet site conditions
 - Minimize the use of water soluble fertilizers
 - Follow guidelines set forth in *Virginia [Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria](#)*

Golf Course Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality

- Use slow-release fertilizers
- Recycle Grass Clippings – when practical clippings are not collected, when collected they are dispersed evenly or composted properly
- Recycle Nutrients from Irrigation Water – Pond water tested for nutrients and fertilizer applications are adjusted accordingly
- Compost Wastes for Reuse – clippings, leaves, ground twigs, etc. are composted and used to add organic matter to soils
- Maintain Water Quality Buffers – No maintenance zones between playing areas and surface water are implemented
- Use Native Plants for Landscaping
- Respect Natural Resources – Recognize that golf courses are managed land areas that should complement the natural environment



- Maintain and Calibrate Application Equipment
- Store Fertilizer Properly – Cool, dry areas with concrete floors and no floor drains
- Schedule Irrigation to Reduce Demands – Large irrigation events are planned for times of least evaporation and energy usage

Minimize the use of pesticides and other chemicals. The facility must comply with all regulations regarding the use of pesticides, including herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, and fungicides and have a program in place to minimize their use. This facility pledges that they:

- Comply with all regulations regarding the use of pesticides (including herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, and fungicides) and other chemicals (www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pesticides or 804-786-3798)
 - Have a Certified Commercial Applicator on staff
 - Only allow Certified Commercial Applicators or Registered Technicians to apply pesticides
 - Adhere to **all requirements** of the pesticide label including those in regard to the transport, mixing, loading, application, storage and disposal of pesticide products and containers
 - Keep records of all pesticide applications
 - Only use pesticides that are currently registered with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)
- Maintain Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each chemical at the facility
- Clearly label materials (product name, expiration date, special handling precautions)
- Keep fertilizers, pesticides, and chemicals indoors on a dry, impervious surface
- Policy in place to not apply pesticides, and fertilizers and other chemicals when weather indicates potential for heavy rains
- Establish “no spray” zones around vegetated buffers and adjacent water features
- Post spill containment measures on-site
- Use only amounts of all landscaping products that are appropriate to site conditions
- Post an emergency response plan that addresses fertilizers, pesticides, chemicals, fuel, paint, and solvents. Identify where runoff water flows; how to handle the facility’s specific chemicals; and who to call for help. File with emergency responders

Golf Course Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality

- Adopt a comprehensive integrated pest management (IPM) program
www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/imp.htm

Recycle. The facility is required to have highly-visible locations/containers that provide the opportunity for guests to recycle aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles, or other disposable products purchased at the facility. Recycling of cardboard, plastic, paper, and composting of organic waste is highly encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:

- Have in place clearly marked recycling locations and/or containers.
 - Plastic bottles
 - Aluminum cans
- Other items recycled by the facility:
 - Printer/copy machine toner cartridges
 - Cardboard
 - Fluorescent lamps (may be required by law)
 - Batteries (may be required by law for NiCad and Lead-Acid)
 - Electronics equipment-computers, etc (may be required by law)
- Other actions taken related to recycling: Recycle wood to mulch, have trees from the course that have died a natural death to be milled for lumber use on course.

Reduce solid waste. The facility must be actively working to reduce its solid waste generation. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall solid waste costs

- Have a numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill

Dining room (or during meetings/events)

- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Use refillable pens and toner cartridges
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Buildings and grounds

- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles



Use water efficiently. The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its water use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater costs
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce water consumption over time

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have installed:
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

Activities outdoors

- Have landscaping that utilizes native species
- Use rain gauges and water meters and only irrigate when necessary
- Have minimized our lawn area
- Have minimized impervious areas (paving, concrete, etc.)
- Maintain vegetative buffers around streams and ponds
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers
- Other actions taken related to water conservation & efficiency: Pond Management, and water quality monitoring

Conserve energy. The facility must have a plan in place and have taken steps toward reducing its energy use. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have established a numeric goal to reduce energy usage over time

Heating and cooling

- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Keep office doors and windows closed if HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Transportation-related energy use

- Use electric golf carts

Educate Golfers & Staff. The facility must have informational materials describing ongoing "green" activities placed throughout the facility. In addition, staff must be trained on the overall goals and objectives of the program as well as in their own areas of work. This facility pledges that they:

- Train new and current staff regarding green initiatives and how they affect operations at the facility
 - Staff members are able to discuss initiatives with golfers and public
- Provide updates on green initiatives given at all staff meetings
- Include "green" housekeeping and maintenance as part of standard operating procedures
- Designate & train staff to monitor plant health and pest populations
- Have informational signs visible to the public regarding green initiatives taking place at the facility
- Include Virginia Green logo and/or description of green initiatives on the facility webpage and public relations materials

Sustainable Actions. This facility pledges that:

- Heritage Oaks enhances wildlife habitat on our property. We have nearly 100 bird boxes located around the course, with more than 85 species of birds identified on the grounds including the Loggerhead Shrike who is partial to the Locust trees. Our water features are home to a variety of fish, turtles and other aquatic life. On most days you will see a few deer about the back nine as well as squirrels and rabbits playing all over the course.

For more information on Heritage Oaks Golf Course, see [Heritage Oaks Golf Course](#) or contact Kelly Adams at kelly.adams@harrisonburgva.gov or 540-442-6502.

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.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see <http://www.deq.state.va.us/Programs/PollutionPrevention/VirginiaGreen/AboutVirginiaGreen.aspx>



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

