

VACo 2010 Go Green Challenge

Visit
www.GoGreenVA.org
today and register for the
Challenge.

A friendly competition that promotes
the implementation of environmental
policies and practical actions that
reduce carbon emissions.

This brochure is printed on recycled paper



Virginia Association of Counties
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219-3627
Telephone: (804) 788-6652
Fax: (804) 788-0083
www.vaco.org



Go Green Q&A

• What is Go Green Virginia?

Go Green Virginia is an initiative initiated by the Virginia Municipal League designed to provide local governments with helpful information and practical strategies to promote environmental responsibility. To encourage participation by all local governments The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) partnered with VML in 2009. The Virginia School Board Association is also a partner in the program.

The initiative, endorsed by VACo's Board of Directors, recognizes that Virginia's counties need to take innovative steps to reduce energy usage and promote sustainability. A 30-member Advisory Committee, with representatives from VML, VACo and other entities, oversees the initiative. The advisory committee is comprised of subject experts from the public, private and non-profit sectors.

• What exactly is the Green Government Challenge?

The "Challenge" is a friendly competition designed to encourage implementation of specific environmental policies and practical actions that reduce the carbon emissions generated by both the local government and the broader community. Cities, towns and counties can become a certified "Green Government." Many of these actions can save local governments money.

• What is the Virginia Association of Counties?

The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) was established in 1934 as an independent, nonprofit instrumentality of Virginia County governments. Each of Virginia's 95 counties is a member of VACo.

VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

• Who do I contact if I need more information?

Send questions to info@gogreenva.org. Or contact Larry Land at [lliland@vaco.org](mailto:liland@vaco.org) or 804-343-2504.



How it works

Local governments earn "green points" by implementing actions and adopting policies--both existing and new. Amassing between 100 and 124 "green points" out of a possible 200 will earn certification as a "Green Government." In addition, local governments could earn Silver, Gold and Platinum levels of certification for scores of 125 points or higher.



How to participate

We have made the process as simple as possible. Here are the steps to participate:

1. **Registering is fast and easy!** Before starting the Challenge, go to www.GoGreenVa.org to register. The site includes an abundance of technical assistance and examples of each of the 30 "action items" included in the Challenge.
2. **Start completing the Challenge and implementing new actions in your jurisdiction!** Refer to the Web site often for technical assistance or examples already established by VML/VACo members. For information or assistance in completing the Green Government Challenge, visit www.GoGreenVa.org. Or if necessary, contact Larry Land at [lliland@vaco.org](mailto:liland@vaco.org) or 804-343-2504.
3. **Submit your completed Challenge by Sept. 30, 2010.** To save time and paper, all completed Challenge forms must be submitted online at www.GoGreenVa.org by Sept. 30, 2010.
4. **Attend the VACo Annual Conference in November to collect your certificate!**