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Keepin' It Green

Experience a variety of ways to live the *sustainable* [Virginia Beach](#) life. Pick fresh produce from an organic and educational working farm, taste and learn about the legendary Lynnhaven oysters while standing waders-deep in the water, attend an event at the LEED® Gold-certified Convention Center or enjoy a beautiful view while getting hands-on environmental education from the newly built, fully-sustainable Brock Environmental Center. Virginia Beach is proud to familiarize visitors and locals with an eco-friendly environment.

The Pungo community, adjacent to Sandbridge Beach, is home to 8,000 acres of farmland, including 16 You-Pick-It farms. Depending on the season, there is a variety of handpicked produce such as strawberries, blueberries, blackberries, kale, cabbage or even wildflowers. Stopping by Pungo's roadside stands or exploring one of the area's working farms makes for an adventurous family outing and is a great alternative for getting away from the beach. Pungo is also home to [New Earth Farm](#), a sustainable, organic and educational working farm. The farm is proud to provide on-farm participatory cooking classes, led by some of the area's top chefs, to advocate and help educate visitors about healthy, responsible and sustainable food. Learn to make cheese, kombucha, shear sheep and more.

Visitors can embark on an unforgettable [oyster-farming boat tour](#) on the Lynnhaven River with Pleasure House Oysters, where they can try their hand at helping harvest the bivalves' waders-deep in the water. Virginia Beach is the only place to harvest the legendary Lynnhaven oysters, once coveted around the world and served to presidents and royalty for their size, saltiness and gentle zing, and now served at Virginia Beach's top restaurants.

Located just blocks from the Resort Beach, the [Virginia Beach Convention Center](#), a state-of-the-art facility featuring more than 500,000 sq. ft. of space, continues to elevate industry standards for its efforts on sustainability. In fact, it was the country's first convention center to earn LEED® Gold certification. The center includes a customizable exhibit hall, meeting room suites, concessions and pre-function and registration spaces, as well as a garden and locally sourced on-site caterer.

Nestled against the stunning Chesapeake Bay is the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Environmental Center](#), the most energy-efficient, environmentally smart building in Virginia Beach. With its solar panels, wind turbines, geothermal wells, natural landscaping and more, the center is an international model for energy and water efficiency. The brand-new fully-sustainable center was designed to earn the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® Platinum designation and to meet the strict standards of the Living Building Challenge. It also features a large conference room for meetings, discussions and collaboration set against a stunning natural wonder, just a quick boat ride from renowned oyster farms on the Lynnhaven River.



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