

VisitLEX - Restaurants/Bars/Breweries Form

Thank you for participating in becoming a SustainabLEX Certified Business. This certification will help assess your current sustainability plan, introduce and identify goals, understand the importance of sustainability in your workplace, and celebrate changes. By becoming a SustainabLEX Certified Business, you will be recognized on VisitLEX's website, social media platforms, media pitches and more. You will also receive a toolkit that will help you promote your business as sustainable.

Please fill out the form below. It will take roughly 30 minutes to complete and it must be completed in one sitting. Once submitted, a member from our team will review your responses, award any additional points, and reach out to you regarding your final score. If you have any questions, please email rachel.skinner@bggreensource.org.

You must achieve a 40% or higher to certify in the program. You are eligible to re-certify once per calendar year and are required to re-certify every 3 years to maintain certified status.

RESPONSE KEY:

Complete= The item is complete in full.

Incomplete= The item is only partially complete or not complete at all.

Doesn't Apply= The item does not apply to your setting/space/business and is impossible to complete.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Program Requirements

All items in the section 'Program Requirements' must be completed within 6 months of beginning the certification process. VisitLEX and Bluegrass Greensource hold a right to review these initiatives in person at any time.

2. All landfill bins are paired with recycling bins. *

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

3. All staff have reviewed a list of what CAN and CANNOT be recycled in Lexington. *

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

4. A comprehensive inventory has been taken for all consumable materials AND a purchasing/ordering procedure has been implemented to minimize deliveries & packaging materials.

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

5. Sustainability goals, procedures, and resources are included in all employee onboarding materials.

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

6. Develop a written sustainability commitment statement for internal and/or external use.

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

7. Share parts of your sustainability plan or goals via a newsletter, social media, or your website.

Mark only one oval.

☐ I commit to completing this within the next 6 months.

Waste

8. Offer straws only upon request by the customer. (4 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Complete

☐ Incomplete

☐ Doesn't Apply

☐ Other: _____

9. Reusable cups are offered to customers for all drinks not offered in recyclable drink ware. (6 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

10. Eliminate all use of Styrofoam products. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

11. All dining ware, including cutlery, is reusable. (9 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

12. For to-go orders, all cutlery and utensils are compostable. (6 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

13. For to-go orders, all packaging is compostable. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

14. Phase out all single use plastics or Styrofoam in dining ware. (5 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

15. All prep and plated food waste is collected separately from other waste and composted. (10 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

16. Conduct your own waste audit or contact Bluegrass Greensource to conduct a waste audit. (6 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

17. Post SustainabLEX Signage about what can and cannot be recycled near all recycling bins. (4 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

18. Designate a space to collect electronics waste to be disposed of at an e-waste recycling center. (3 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

19. Plan an event using the Low-Waste Events Guide in the Lex for Good Resource Library. (4 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

20. Offer a digital menu. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

21. Who do you recycle with? (Not for points.) *

22. Is your business doing anything else related to waste management that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points!

23. Other questions/comments. *

Energy

24. Track your energy usage and review monthly. This may be by simply reviewing your energy bills and documenting usage or using more formal technology. (4 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

25. Review the ENERGY STAR Treasure Map and identify areas you can improve upon energy savings. (5 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

26. Install motion-sensored lighting in all areas with low foot traffic. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

27. Install programmable thermostats and set to be active only during business hours. (7 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

28. Replace all incandescent lights with CFL or LED lights. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

29. Place signage near all employee exits to remind staff to turn off the lights. (2 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

30. Turn off and unplug all nonessential electronics when not in use. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

31. Program outside lighting to be on a schedule. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

32. When replacing equipment, purchase ENERGY STAR or WaterSense certified material whenever possible. (7 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

33. Is your business doing anything else related to energy that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points:

34. Other questions/comments. *

Water & Sustainable Landscaping

35. Track your water usage and review monthly. This may be by simply reviewing your water bills and documenting usage or using more formal technology. (4 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

36. Pursue education and training about sustainability in brewing or distilling. (6 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

37. Place signage near all sinks reminding people to be mindful of the amount of water being used to wash hands, dishes, etc. Shut the sink off whenever possible. (3 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

38. Ensure all employees know how to report a drip or leak. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

39. Offer water refill stations to all guests and employees with reusable, recyclable, or no cups. (5 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

40. Install low-flow faucets in all bathrooms and kitchens. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

41. Install low-flush toilets in all bathrooms. (7 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

42. Install a rain garden on your property using native plants to help improve water quality. (8 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

43. Install a permeable pavement parking lot to help reduce water runoff. (9 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

44. Is your business doing anything else related to Water & Sustainable Landscaping that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points!

45. Other questions/comments. *

Local Purchasing

46. Establish a partnership with a local organization(s) to donate excess food to. See the Resource Guide for organizations in need. (8 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

47. Choose a Lexington-based organization to create a sustainable collaboration with. Example: If a guest volunteers at a Keep Lexington Beautiful litter cleanup within a month of visiting your business, they get 10% off. (5 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

48. Using the Resource Guide, identify local vendors to purchase produce from and contact at least 2. (6 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

49. Limit out-of-season menu items. (5 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

50. Establish a purchasing policy that requires at least 2 of your major vendors to be local (3 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

51. Add the following questions to your purchasing policy to help consider environmental factors when making purchases (3 pts):

Where product is being sourced from and how far does it have to travel?

Can packaging for this item be reduced?

Is the end product reusable or recyclable?

Does the vendor's mission and values align with your own?

Mark only one oval.

☐ Complete

☐ Incomplete

☐ Doesn't Apply

☐ Other: _____

52. Is your business doing anything else related to Local Purchasing that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points!

53. Other questions/comments. *

Travel & Transportation

54. Encourage and accommodate staff using alternative modes of transportation to get to work (walking, carpooling, biking, bus, etc.) by making schedules and resources accessible. (8 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

55. Install bicycle parking nearby. (6 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

56. Partner with a ride share service and offer guests deals when they commute to and from your business using that service. (5 pts)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

57. Encourage staff to walk, bike, or carpool to meetings in the local area. (5 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

58. Is your business doing anything else related to Travel & Transportation that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points!

59. Other questions/comments. *

Sustainable Certifications

60. Apply to become Green Check Certified through LFUCG. (2 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

61. Apply to become LEED certified. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

62. Apply to become a [Bicycle Friendly Business](#). (2 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

63. Apply to become a [Kentucky Proud](#) Member. (3 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

64. Apply to become [Buy Local](#) certified. (2 pts) *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Complete
- ☐ Incomplete
- ☐ Doesn't Apply
- ☐ Other: _____

65. Has your business completed any other sustainability-related certifications that you would like to highlight? This could inspire other businesses and/or we may be able to award you bonus points!

66. Other questions/comments. *

Innovation

67. Are there any initiatives, not covered by the scorecard, that your company has implemented to be more sustainable?

68. Is there anything else related to sustainability that VisitLEX and Bluegrass Greensource could help you get started on? We have many resources to share with you!

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