

# VILLAS FOR THE PARK PLEDGE

As a Responsible Villa Owner, I recognize that our beautiful islands, beaches, reefs, wildlife, and waters are treasures that belong to all of us. I pledge to operate my villa responsibly and to encourage my guests to be thoughtful stewards of the environment during their stay.

## I pledge to

- **PROTECT OUR SEA TURTLES** | Encourage guests to never touch or feed sea turtles, keep a safe distance while swimming or snorkeling, and never disturb nests or nesting turtles.
- **PROTECT OUR MARINE LIFE & REEFS** | Encourage guests to practice responsible snorkeling, boating, and swimming, and not to touch, stand on, or collect coral, shells, or marine life, for its safety and theirs.
- **RESPECT WILDLIFE** | Encourage guests to observe wildlife from a respectful distance and never feed, chase, handle, or otherwise interfere with wild animals including donkeys.
- **USE ONLY MINERAL-BASED SUNSCREEN** | Remind guests that in order to help protect our coral reefs and marine life, only reef safe, mineral-based sunscreen is allowed in the USVI.
- **KEEP OUR BEACHES & WATERS CLEAN** | Encourage guests to take everything they bring to the beach back with them, properly dispose of waste, and leave beaches and natural areas cleaner than they found them.
- **REDUCE SINGLE-USE PLASTICS** | Minimize or eliminate single-use plastic whenever possible and provide reusable alternatives such as water bottles, shopping bags, food-storage containers, and other sustainable options to guests.
- **RECYCLE RESPONSIBLY** | Provide clearly marked recycling options for guests and encourage the proper separation of recyclable materials.
- **USE DARK SKY LIGHTING** | Install lighting and use motion sensors on outdoor lights to reduce light pollution and protects nocturnal wildlife including nesting sea turtles.
- **CONSERVE WATER & ENERGY** | Encourage responsible use of freshwater, electricity, air conditioning, and other resources recognizing that island resources are precious and limited.
- **LEAD BY EXAMPLE** | Strive to make responsible choices regarding sustainability and conservation, and inspire those who stay in my home to do the same.

## My Commitment

I pledge to do my part to protect the natural beauty and extraordinary marine environment of our islands. By educating our guests and making responsible choices, together we can reduce our impact, protect wildlife, preserve our reefs, and ensure that these special places remain healthy for generations to come. I am proud to be a responsible villa owner.

Villa/property

Owner/manager

Signature

Date

Please return a signed copy or photo of signed copy of your pledge to Jennifer Stone at [jstone@friendsvinp.org](mailto:jstone@friendsvinp.org) and we will send you a pledge to display and share with your guests and list you on our website as a responsible villa owner. Thank you for making a difference!