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DuCard Vineyards adds to 'green' practices by eliminating plastic water bottles

January 18, 2022. Etlan, Virginia. DuCard Vineyards is proud to announce it has eliminated plastic water bottles from its consumer tasting room operation. Through a new partnership with Virginia Artesian Bottling Company, DuCard is now offering 1 liter glass bottles that are recyclable and refillable.

What's old is new again: readers of a certain age will recall that this is how milk was delivered and consumed, with the local dairy delivering glass milk bottles to the side porch of your house, and picking - up, cleaning and re-using the empties. DuCard is the first winery in Virginia to adopt this practice, as another step in its ongoing efforts to be a good steward of the land and build on its track record as an environmental leader.

Globally, a staggering 480 billion plastic bottles were used last year, the majority of which were single use water bottles, with less than 10 percent being recycled. Here in Virginia the Governor has ordered the use of single use plastics to be eliminated in state agencies and universities by the end of this year.

According to Scott Elliff, Founder and President of DuCard Vineyards, "while we certainly know we're not making a measurable dent in the problem, our philosophy is that everyone can do something, contribute to the solution and be a good role model. It's just how we operate, across the board."

DuCard has a long history of environmental leadership and sustainability, as a repeat winner of Virginia Green's "Greenest Winery in Virginia." From solar panels and electric car charging stations, to reclaimed wood, corn starch cups, lightweight wine bottles and cork recycling, DuCard has adopted a wide range of practices that support sustainable operations.

"We have been delighted to work with DuCard on this initiative and are fine tuning the order and delivery process to make it work seamlessly for both our organizations - enabling it to be expanded to other wineries we hope," said Nick Brown, President of Virginia Artesian Bottling. "Since our water is sourced from a number of springs at our central Virginia property, our carbon footprint is lower than most other water options, which are trucked in from up to a thousand miles away to Virginia-based businesses."

DuCard Vineyards is a boutique vineyard and winery producing award-winning wines at its gorgeous mountainside location bordering the Shenandoah National Park. www.ducardvineyards.com

Virginia Artesian Bottling Company uses water derived from a deep, stone-protected aquifer located directly beneath its facility in pastoral Ashland, Virginia. Bottling right at the source helps retain the purity and clean, crisp taste of its waters. www.virginiaartesian.com