



Maryland Green Registry MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

MOM's Organic Market



5612 Randolph Rd.

Rockville, MD 20852

301-816-1133

www.momsorganicmarket.com

Retail ([nine locations](#) in Maryland)

Member since August 2017

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

"MOM's Purpose is to protect and restore the environment."

See <https://momsorganicmarket.com/ourpurpose/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V06sMnmUJ6U>

MOM's communicates the importance of renewable energy through social media, press releases, in-store signage, participation in local legislative and lobbying events, window decals, website, and participation in community environmental events and cleanups. MOM's believes their most valuable asset is their employees. They host educational field trips, solar site tours, environmental presentations, and more. With this first-hand knowledge, employees are empowered to speak enthusiastically about MOM's and their commitment to the environment.

Environmental Team

MOM's created an internal initiative called Environmental Restoration (E.R.) Captains in an effort to preserve, protect, and restore natural resources. Each store has an employee in this role. They promote MOM's green power and serve as the environmental subject matter expert. ER Captains are responsible for fulfilling MOM's Purpose and seeing it upheld at every store; educating staff on upcoming initiatives; ensuring sustainability efforts are met; connecting with local environmental groups; attending educational field trips and meetings; planning volunteer events, and more!

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

Ingredient Standards:

- *MOM's chooses organic and stocks a higher volume of organic products than any other store, including all certified organic produce.*
- *When considering new items to sell at MOM's, ingredients are closely reviewed. If the product is not certified organic and contains a high-risk GMO ingredient, MOM's asks the company to confirm it is not a GMO. If they cannot provide confirmation, MOM's will not carry the product.*

Stuff MOM's Doesn't Sell in their Food:

- *Artificial colors, preservatives, or sweeteners*
- *High fructose corn syrup or preservatives*
- *Hydrogenated oil*
- *Meat or dairy with antibiotics or growth hormones*
- *Bleached or bromated flour*
- *Bulk dried fruit with added sulfites*
- *Meat with nitrates or nitrites*
- *Cottonseed oil*
- *Imported or domestic, non-sparkling waters*

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Each MOM's location volunteers in their community once each quarter cleaning up trash, removing invasive plants, restoring trails, and planting native plants.

MOM's believes it can have the greatest impact by partnering with organizations that share their environmental commitment while bringing their own focus and expertise on issues they care about. By working with these partners, MOM's has a greater opportunity to take action, reach out, offer fresh perspectives, expand awareness, educate, share solutions, change behavior, and ultimately make a difference.

*In addition to these partnerships, MOM's donates over \$500,000 to local community and environmental partners that support their Purpose, To Protect and Restore the Environment. MOM's is proud to provide event support and donations to certified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations within our local store communities. See here for more information on our partnerships:
<https://momsorganicmarket.com/partnerships/>*

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

In 2005, MOM's eliminated plastic bags from all stores and introduced a \$.10 bag credit for customers who use reusable bags.

In June 2010, MOM's launched Plastic Surgery, a comprehensive storewide effort to eliminate unnecessary plastic waste in every way possible. The first (and most important) step was to ban bottled water.

Recycling

MOM's offers extensive recycling to customers, providing a free place for hard-to-recycle items. All 18 stores have recycling centers where they allow drop off for a myriad of recyclable items, including batteries, shoes, corks, eyeglasses, Brita filters, cell phones, energy bar wrappers, and food squeeze pouches. A full list of accepted items may be found on MOM's website. Additionally, MOM's offers annual denim recycling – providing customers a place other than the landfill for used, worn-out denim.

*See website for specific items and last year's recycling totals:
<https://momsorganicmarket.com/recycle-center/>*

Composting

MOM's collects all food waste for composting, including eggshells, coffee grinds, containers labeled "compostable" or "biodegradable". All servingware (food containers, cups, napkins, and utensils). from Naked Lunch, MOM's all organic, vegetarian eatery, is also compostable

Energy

Energy Efficiency

- *MOM's uses ultra-low watt LED overhead, track, refrigerated, case, and exit lights. LED parking lot lights are used in some stores.*
- *Offices and restrooms utilize motion sensor lights with dimming to help reduce consumption.*
- *MOM's installs adjustable AC units.*
- *MOM's maintains a no open door policy, prohibiting cooler doors from being propped open. They power down all unnecessary lights and equipment when not in use, and install skylights where permitted.*



Renewable Energy

100% of the electricity used to power MOM's is offset by Certified Renewable Wind and Solar Energy. They've been committed to 100% renewable energy power since 2005. MOM's uses a variety of renewables to support this goal, including purchasing 100% American Wind RECs and utilizing a combination of both onsite and offsite solar power PV systems.

Solar Power at MOM's:

- *In Feb. 2013, MOM's installed solar panels at their Waldorf location.*
- *They expanded their renewable energy portfolio in July 2016, when a MOM's designated 1.5-megawatt solar farm in Kingsville, MD went live.*
- *MOM's Solar Farm outputs 2,124,000 kilowatts/year and they're purchasing the entire system's output for the next 20 years.*
- *The power generated by this solar farm accounts for 25% of the total power needs of MOM's stores.*
- *In April 2017, White Marsh's solar panels went live – generating ~30% of the store's energy usage.*

Wind Power at MOM's:

MOM's supports renewable energy projects by purchasing Wind Power Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) to offset over 100% of the company's electrical usage. In 2016, MOM's purchased 11,100,000 kWh of Wind Power RECs. The benefit of MOM's purchasing wind power is equivalent to offsetting the greenhouse gas emissions from:

- *1,205 passenger vehicles driven for one year*
- *2,051 tons of waste sent to the landfill*
- *787 homes' electricity use for one year*
- *6,147,447 pounds of coal burned*

Transportation



Employee Commute/Customer Travel

Employee Benefits:

Employees receive a 15% contribution toward the purchase of an electric or hybrid vehicle. <https://momsorganicmarket.com/recycle-center/>

Consumer Benefits:

- *EV Charging: MOM's is a proud member of the U.S. Department of Energy's [Workplace Charging Challenge](#) and believes that electric and hybrid vehicles are a great opportunity to reduce global warming emissions. MOM's hosts free Level II car charging at most locations and provides access to workplace charging at their Central Office.*
- *Carbon Offsets Initiative: MOM's offsets the pollution generated from customers' round trips to and from their stores. They purchase the equivalent amount of carbon offsets that help fund national green energy projects through 3Degrees. Learn more here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DDPQDtHhM0>*
- *We Love Inflation Initiative: MOM's provides free tire pressure testing for customers' cars to help improve fuel efficiency. See here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwOkzwwOemq>*



Fleet Vehicles

Our company car is the Nissan Leaf and we are part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Workplace Charging Employer Partners Program:

<https://energy.gov/eere/vehicles/workplace-charging-employer-partners>



View our videos



Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

