



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.

Three Little Birds Lawn Care LLC



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Landscaping Services
Member since October 2017

Waste

Recycling

In 2016, we began recycling all solid waste materials that were generated from the installations of backyard patios and outdoor living spaces. During prior years, waste materials such as pallets and metal shipping bands were discarded in on-site dumpsters or at county landfills. Beginning in 2016, we began the practice of collecting and recycling all waste from each installation. Pallets are returned to the distributor to be re-used for future deliveries. Metal shipping bands are snipped, collected, and later taken to a recycling center. All plastic waste is also collected on site and taken to recycling centers. Since the inception of this practice, we have eliminated all non-organic waste from patio installations.

Composting

In 2017, we converted our yard clean-up system from utilizing plastic contractor's bags to an on-site shredding system for organic waste. This waste, such as leaves and clippings, is transported to a private collection facility where it is used for compost. Employing this system has allowed us to not only discontinue the use of plastic bags but to also ensure that all organic matter collected from job sites can be converted directly to compost.

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

In 2015 we initiated a plan to reduce the overall number of miles traveled per year. We began eliminating trips by requiring crew members to take and

submit before and after photos of properties serviced, which drastically reduced the required number of trips related to quality control checks.

We also developed a system for customers to submit photos of upcoming projects, which reduced our travel miles for estimates by allowing us to provide pricing on certain jobs utilizing customer photos and online records. This plan reduced the number of physical estimate appointments significantly, ultimately reducing the number of miles traveled per year and the overall environmental impact of our operations.

Fleet Vehicles

Between 2016 and 2017, we sold several vehicles to increase overall efficiency and to reduce total fuel consumption. We sold a Ford F150, E250, and F350, all of which boasted average consumption under 10 miles per gallon. We replaced these vehicles with a 2015 F250 which gets more than double the fuel economy and a 2017 Toyota Avalon for estimates. Utilizing this sedan in lieu of the trucks for estimates has reduced our fuel consumption considerably.

In 2015 we spent \$27,014.22 in fuel for the year. After replacing the vehicles, our total fuel used in 2016 was reduced to \$13,090.31.

Water

Stormwater Management and Site Design

Each of our landscape designs and installations involve the careful control and management of stormwater runoff, as well as selection and use of proper materials for each specific installation. As a general practice, a free-draining aggregate base is used on each of our outdoor living space installations. Permeable pavers are also offered to customers to reduce the environmental impact of their homes or businesses.

Our installation practices greatly exceed industry standards and are done to minimize material waste as well as to reduce the environmental impact of each of our projects. Environmental impact is reduced by selecting and installing native plants and groundcover, installation of proper drainage fields, and utilizing practices such as recycling waste materials on-site.



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

