



## 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.

# Amicus Green Building Center

4080A Howard Ave.

Kensington, MD 20895

301-571-8590

[www.amicusgreen.com](http://www.amicusgreen.com)

Retailer

Member since April 2012

## Management and Leadership

### Environmental Policy Statement

*Our environmental policy statement is reflected in our corporate mission: To help people live, work, play and pray in sustainable, comfortable, healthy, affordable and responsible buildings. We follow the credo "Do well by doing good" and subscribe to the principles of The Triple Bottom Line, where we work to maximize three profit metrics: financial, environmental (the protection and development of natural resources and assets), and civic/social. We strive to walk the walk to become a truly sustainable company in all facets of our operations.*

### Environmental Team

*Every employee is part of our environmental team. Everyone is welcome to provide ideas to help us individually and as an organization to further our sustainability goals and reduce our environmental footprint. For example, based on an employee request, we recently started providing memberships in Arganica (which delivers locally grown and organic foods) to all employees as an HR benefit. We like the idea that this supports another local "green focused" business and local farmers and organic farmers.*

### Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

*Amicus Green Building Center offers a wide variety of sustainable building products. The products we offer must first meet significant criteria and we are careful to weed out poor performers to prevent greenwashing. In conducting due diligence, we measure several sustainability attributes, including health (i.e.*

*paints, finishes, and woodwork that do not off gas); environmental criteria (i.e. only FSC-certified and reclaimed wood products); where they are manufactured and economic criteria (giving priority to products manufactured in the U.S. and especially within a 500-mile radius); energy efficiency (i.e. LED light bulbs that provide 70%+ energy savings and longer lifespans); and water efficiency (i.e. faucets and showerheads that use 40% less water than standard models). We also offer a consulting and advisory service to help homeowners and builders shrink their energy and water costs and fully implement green building guidelines in all sorts of projects. For instance, in addition to selling a variety of rainbarrels, cisterns, and other tools that promote onsite stormwater retention and management, we also consult on designing and building raingardens, greywater systems, and other systems.*

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

*All office paper is 100% recycled, FSC-certified. Our register receipt paper is FSC-Certified and BPA-free (most thermal receipts have BPA, which can rub off on your hands).*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*We often sponsor school events and community events, such as:*

- recycling drives to collect clothes for Goodwill*
- recycling drives to collect old denim to be turned into insulation for Habitat for Humanity projects (the 2010 project resulted in 25,000 sf of healthy insulation for Habitat projects, which made recipient homes more efficient and lowered their utility bills (which is even more critical for low-income owners with limited discretionary spending).*
- recycling drives to collect various scrap materials for artists to use, and*
- sponsoring school environmental programs and fundraising.*

**Waste**

**Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*Our printers default to duplex which reduces paper use. We reuse boxes and shipping cartons for customer use (to prevent use of disposable shopping bags) and for shipping out products.*

*We give away pallets to avoid landfilling or burning. They've been used for such creative uses as to build chicken coops, fencing, and indoor vertical garden walls (which also helps people grow cleaner, healthier, local foods).*

**Recycling**

*We recycle approximately 85% of our waste, including nearly all paper, cardboard and metals, and a large percentage of plastics. We also accept and recycle used CFLs for people and have accepted approximately 300 bulbs in the last 5 years.*

**Energy**

**Energy Efficiency**

*All computers and peripherals are on Energy Star sleep settings and are turned off every night where applicable. All lighting is either LED or fluorescent. Our average consumption is about 900 kWh/month for a 4,000 sf space.*

**Renewable Energy**

*Amicus Green Building Center has been 100% wind powered through utility-supplied wind credits. Our costs are typically at or slightly below standard offer service.*

**Transportation**

**Employee Commute**

*We have had multiple carless employees who travel exclusively by transit and bike.*

*We also provide information to make it easier for customers to travel to us by Metro and bus.*

*We support Capital Bikeshare and will soon offer discounts to its members.*

**Water**

**Water Conservation**

*Our bathroom has a dual-flush toilet, which saves an average 40% compared standard toilets. We also consult to clients and sell a variety of water-saving devices to help them conserve in their facilities and homes.*

## Other

*Our business has been a two-time recipient of the Eco-Leadership Award by the Alliance for Workplace Excellence.*

*We have received a Contractor of the Year (COTY) Award by the regional National Association of the Remodeling industry (NARI) for advanced use of green building technology in a residential construction project.*

*We are a member of Green America, and a founding participant and exhibitor at the DC Green Festivals.*

*We were founding supporters of Bethesda Green.*



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

*Learn more at [www.green.maryland.gov/registry](http://www.green.maryland.gov/registry)*

