



## 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.

# Calvert County Government

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<http://www.co.cal.md.us>

County Government

Member since March 2011

## Management and Leadership



### **Environmental Policy Statement**

*The Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County and all of County government are committed to energy resource management and conservation both for economic savings and environmental benefit. The Calvert County Comprehensive Plan, which is the guiding document (Chapter I, page 19) states the following energy objectives:*

- *Develop policies, procedures and practices that promote energy conservation and efficient use of energy resources.*
- *Use alternative energy sources when economically feasible and compatible with the environment.*
- *Encourage energy efficiency during site selection, site design, and building design for residential, commercial, and institutional developments.*
- *Reduce both residential and commercial average annual increase of energy consumption.*
- *Reduce the County government's energy consumption.*
- *Plan for the County's future energy needs.*



### **Environmental Team**

*Calvert County's Go Green initiative is a local effort to promote the responsible use of energy and resources in order to create a healthier environment and a more sustainable community. The county's Green Team, made up of county government employees, is leading the Go Green initiative. The Green Team is focusing on the following efforts:*

- *Cataloging ongoing county initiatives to reduce energy consumption*
- *Encouraging green initiative suggestions from county staff and forwarding them to the Board of County Commissioners with recommendations*
- *Fostering citizen input on green initiatives and informing residents about ways to reduce energy consumption and protect the environment*
- *Providing semi-annual reports on Green Team efforts to the Board of County Commissioners*

*There is also a Citizens Green Team which consists of members of the community from Calvert County Public Schools, local business owners (including building contractors and retail store owners), and various community agencies.*



### **Annual Environmental Goals**

- *Reduce overall electric consumption at county facilities using a variety of methods including lowering/raising thermostat settings, turning off lights and equipment (computers, office machines, etc.) when not in use and overnight.*
- *Replace outdated interior and exterior lighting fixtures at county facilities with energy efficient and, where possible, LED lighting.*
- *Replace old heating and air conditioning units in county buildings with more efficient equipment as the older equipment fails.*



### **Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*The Citizens Green Team and the Calvert County Green Team cosponsors an annual Green Expo open to the community. The purpose of the Green Expo is to provide outreach information regarding energy efficient activities that the average citizen can undertake to save energy, money and the environment. Vendors who promote energy saving efforts and products (including contractors, retailers, etc.), community groups (local public and private school groups, the Girl Scouts, etc.), the local hospital, and other local agencies that promote environmental stewardship present materials and resources to the public. Interactive workshops, guest speakers and materials are provided.*

*The Citizens Green Team and the Calvert County Green Team are coauthoring a booklet entitled: 'From My Backyard To Our Bay' for distribution to the citizens of Calvert County. The booklet outlines everyday environmental activities and choices that homeowners can make to protect the Chesapeake Bay and our local waterfront. Examples include: using lawn and garden fertilizers sparingly and correctly, encouraging wildlife, watering more efficiently and mowing properly.*

## Waste

### **Recycling**

*Countywide recycling has reached 25%. Most of the county buildings have recycling operations in place (paper, cardboard and plastic) and all regional parks have recycling in place (paper and plastic).*

## Energy

### **Energy Efficiency**

- *We are replacing older air conditioning units in several county buildings with energy efficient units.*
- *Remote, programmable thermostats have been installed in several buildings.*
- *Over the last ten years, T12 fluorescent light fixtures have been replaced with T8 electronic ballasts in many County buildings and all newly constructed buildings have been equipped with energy efficient light fixtures. Fluorescent lighting use reduction has also been accomplished by removing one bulb from each four and three bulb light fixture in all County buildings.*
- *The County has systematically replaced the tar and chip roofs on a number of County buildings with a “cool roof” consisting of a white, reflective roof membrane of PVC Sarnifil which offers a high level of solar reflectance shown to reduce energy consumption.*

*Total cost savings for electricity from FY 2009 to FY 2010 was \$104,402.54*

## Water

### **Water Conservation**

*A new County truck and bus wash station has been constructed using an InterClean machine. Estimates are that a school bus can be washed for as little as \$1.00 and that the new process will recycle 925 gallons of water per vehicle. Approximately 100 vehicles will be washed each week, saving million gallons of water per year.*

*Waterless urinals were installed at the Flag Ponds Beach bathhouse along with low-flow toilets. Low flow toilets were also installed at the Mount Hope Community Center.*



**Maryland**

*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)*

