



## 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.

# Straughan Environmental, Inc.



STRAUGHAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL

10245 Old Columbia Road

Columbia, MD 21046

443-539-2538

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

Environmental Professional Services

Member since December 2010

## Management and Leadership



### Environmental Policy Statement

*Straughan Environmental is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We will strive to improve our environmental performance over time and to initiate additional projects and activities that will further reduce our impacts on the environment. In 2015 Straughan management adopted a formal environmental policy which is stated below.*

*Our commitment to the environment extends to our customers, our staff, and the community in which we operate. We are committed to:*

- *Comply with all applicable environmental regulations;*
- *Prevent pollution whenever possible;*
- *Train all of our staff on our environmental program and empower them to contribute and participate;*
- *Communicate our environmental commitment and efforts to our customers, staff, and our community; and*
- *Continually improve over time by striving to measure our environmental impacts and by setting goals to reduce these impacts each year.*



### Environmental Team

*The Straughan green team meets regularly to discuss sustainable efforts and ways to make them more successful. Our team brainstorms future initiatives and projects to make Straughan Environmental more sustainable. Throughout the year the team works on new projects and continues to update progress on*

*existing projects such as recycling, landscaping, purchasing, and energy consumption. We keep the rest of the staff in the loop by providing lunch and learns on new initiatives and staff meeting presentations. We also keep our staff involved through an interactive feedback system found on the inter-office Green Team Webpage.*

**Annual Environmental Goals**

*At Straughan Environmental, Inc., our vision is “A Sustainable World”, and our mission is “to delivering sustainable projects that protect, enhance, and restore the existing natural and human environment.” With this in mind, Straughan sustainability goals are focused on reducing and conserving energy, water, and waste at our Straughan office through yearly goal-setting, tracking and reporting our efforts to all staff. An additional goal is to contribute to our community in meaningful ways. We sponsor environmental events and participate in at least one community clean-up day each year.*

*As part of commitment to sustainability, we believe in measuring our success through the triple bottom line. We ensure that our work supports not just our profit but the environment and the community as well.*

**Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

*Straughan is a company of engineers, scientists, and planners who use collaborative approaches that result in better outcomes for projects, people and the environment. We strive to include sustainability in every design project.*

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

- *All of our office supplies contain recycled content whenever possible. This includes copy paper, paperclips, pens, other paper products such as paper towels and bathroom products.*
- *All of our appliances are rated as Energy Star appliances and most of our computer equipment including monitors, desktop computers and some laptops are Energy Star rated.*
- *We purchase green cleaning products*
- *Straughan choose to use Flavia packets in our one cup coffee and tea maker. Quarterly we ship the packets back to the manufacturer for recycling. Any regular coffee grinds go in our compost containers.*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Straughan participates in an annual community clean-up day usually on Earth Day. Office members spend the day picking up litter in the woods, stream,*

and roadway near our office. Additionally, Straughan donates used clothing to those in need.

## Waste

### **Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*The Straughan Green Team continuously monitors all solid waste in the office building. The team strives to divert and reduce this landfill waste by making recycling stations more accessible open to untraditionally recyclable materials such as batteries, cell phones, coffee beans, and compact discs. Between 2014 and 2015, Straughan reduced its total solid waste by four percent.*

*Further savings are expected as Straughan officially introduces its office composting program in the spring of 2016.*

### **Recycling**

*The Straughan office has many clearly labeled recycling stations throughout the office. We recycle:*

- *Paper (7,000 pounds annually)*
- *Metals, glass, and plastics (10,000 pounds annually)*
- *CDs and cases*
- *Batteries (200 lbs annually)*
- *Cell Phones and electronics*
- *Coffee beans and tea bags (5,500 lbs annually)*

*Overall, Straughan recycles 55% of our total solid waste. This is a ten percent increase since 2014. Our recycling services make up 80% of total annual solid waste cost. We track our waste by counting all waste receptacle locations and sizes and estimate quarterly waste generated by extrapolating from weekly sampling throughout the year.*

### **Composting**

*The Straughan Green Team has extensively researched and planned an office composting program. The program started in the spring of 2016. We will compost fruit and vegetable waste, leaves, eggshells, and other kitchen compostables. We will use our homemade compost to nurture an office garden complete with fresh herbs and flowers to attract native pollinators.*

**Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

*Straughan uses green cleaning products and recycles all batteries and electronics to reduce any toxic materials going to the landfill.*

**Energy**

**Energy Efficiency**

*The Straughan office building is highly energy efficient and uses 18% less energy than required by code and Lighting Power Density 20% below code. All of our appliances are Energy Star. Annually, the Green Team continues to monitor energy use by analyzing BGE bills, using Energy Star's Portfolio Manager, and setting yearly goals based on current data.*

**Renewable Energy**

*Straughan conducted a solar feasibility study for our Columbia MD headquarters. Due to a number of south-facing trees that also provide needed shading, the decision was made to hold off on solar for now.*

**Transportation**

**Employee Commute**

*When possible, employees work from home once or twice per week resulting in over 1,500 gallons of gasoline saved each year. Our headquarters is located next to two bus routes and within walking distance of a large shopping center.*

**Fleet Vehicles**

*Straughan has three company vehicles, two of which are hybrid fleet vehicles - a 2013 Ford Escape and a 2013 Ford Fusion.*

**Water**

**Water Conservation**

*All flow and flush fixtures are high efficiency and low flow. By using low flow toilets (1.0 gal/flush) and waterless urinals alone, Straughan saves 43%*

*water savings over baseline fixtures. The kitchen dishwasher is Energy Star qualified.*

**Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*The plantings at both the front and back of the building were designed and installed as a native plant gardens.*

## **Green Building**

**LEED Gold**

*When Straughan decided to find a new office space for its headquarters in 2010, it committed to having a sustainable site, and an energy, water, and materials-efficient building by designing for a LEED certification through the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. In 2011, the project achieved a Gold level rating under LEED for Commercial Interiors v.3. Highlights of what we achieved include:*

- *Site sustainability – native plantings*
- *Low-emitting and fuel efficient parking spaces and carpool parking spaces*
- *Water use savings of 43% over EPA baseline fixtures*
- *Lighting Power Density 20% below code*
- *Daylighting and Occupancy Controls (lighting timers and blinds to prevent heating)*
- *Energy efficient HVAC - 18% by cost (below code)*
- *Waste Reduction Plan*
- *Reuse of materials – refurbished office furniture*
- *100% low-emitting interior finish materials*
- *Diverted 75% of construction waste from the landfill*

## **Other**

- In the spring of 2016, Straughan implementing a bird protection program to reduce the number of aviary window strikes. The Straughan Green Team designed cords for the office windows to prevent bird strikes.*

*Straughan monitors and maintains an office beehive since 2012. In years when the bees survive the winter, we collect the honey and put it into Straughan labeled jars for use in our kitchen.*



*Profile Updated April 2016*



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)*

