



## 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.

# Alice Ferguson Foundation



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Not for Profit environmental & agricultural educational

Member since May 2018

## Management and Leadership



### Environmental Team

*The Land Use and Facilities Team monitors the green buildings for electrical consumption and water usage and staff using the buildings make every effort to keep use at a minimum. Green cleaning products are used when necessary; otherwise, water is used to remove soil from windows and floors. All lights are on motion sensors and turn off shortly after people leave each room. There are monthly staff meetings where any concerns or triumphs are brought up and discussed. There is one person on the staff who checks the electronic records of what is going on in the buildings and can detect issues using them and using data loggers to monitor others.*



### Annual Environmental Goals

*Alice Ferguson Foundation set a goal to meet all of the tenets for full certification for The Living Building Challenge with its most recent building, the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Environmental Center. By December 2016, the building had met that goal and was the 13<sup>th</sup> building in the world to have that distinction. Our current goal is to have net positive energy usage in the building every year. In 2017, we had a 25% surplus of electricity generated through solar power.*



### Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

*The Alice Ferguson Foundation's mission is to connect people to their local watershed through education and stewardship. We are also stewards of the*

*longest freshwater, tidal living shoreline in the United States, located along the banks of the Potomac River.*

*Our Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative seeks to prevent litter and the negative impacts of trash on our water. We work throughout the Potomac River watershed with a focus on the DC metro region and partner with citizens, local governments and community organizations to take action for clean land, safe water and healthy lives.*

*Alice Ferguson Foundation, through the annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup, coordinates about 10,000 volunteers at more than 250 cleanup sites in four mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia. We also do significant outreach to school and community groups on topics of waste, litter, and the environment.*

## **Waste**

### **Recycling**

*Regularly recycled materials are picked up and handled by Prince George's County and sorted at their facility in Upper Marlboro, MD. During high volume special events such as the annually-held Oktoberfest, bulk plates, cups utensils are taken to a high-heat composting facility.*

### **Composting**

*Food waste generated on-site is composted and used in our educational Children's Garden as soil amendments. Other food waste is fed directly to the hogs at our farm.*

## **Energy**

### **Energy Efficiency**

*The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Environmental Center's super-insulated shell (roof R- rating and walls R- rating, in addition to solar and geothermal energy, make this one of the most efficient buildings in the world. Ground source heat pumps are tied into the geothermal system for heating and cooling. The bunkhouses also have super-efficient 'skins.' LED lighting is used extensively in and around the buildings and along the pathways and parking areas. Lights are placed on timers and many have motion sensors.*

**Renewable Energy**

*South-facing solar panels and windows maximize the harvest of the sun's renewable energy. Geothermal wells tucked beneath the nearby meadow capture stored energy in the earth's crust and, along with the building's super-insulated shell, make this one of the most energy efficient buildings in the world.*

## Water

**Water Conservation**

*An underground well meets the water supply needs for use at Alice Ferguson Foundation's educational campus. Graywater from sinks and showers is captured and filters through the soil layers. Cisterns capture rainwater that has fallen on the roofs of the two bunkhouses and is used in the educational Children's Garden.*

**Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*Stormwater runoff is filtered and cleaned by carefully selected native plants in bioswales and six rain gardens and then absorbed into the ground so water speed and volume don't create erosion and sedimentation. Two 1,050-gallon cisterns collect the water from our bunkhouses. The water is used in the Children's Garden.*

## Green Building

**LEED / Living Building Challenge**

*Alice Ferguson Foundation's Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Environmental Center received Living Building Challenge (LBC) Full Certification – the 13<sup>th</sup> such building in the world. The LBC certification was audited and vetted by the International Living Future Institute.*

*The same building also received the highest-rated Platinum rating for LEED New Construction commercial buildings in the State of Maryland.*



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

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

