



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.

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay



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www.allianceforthebay.org
Member since July 2017

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

The Annapolis Office Environmental Policy Statement states that “The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We strive to improve our sustainability initiatives in the office and initiate new projects and activities that will further reduce our impacts on our surrounding environment. Our commitment to the environment extends to our members, our staff, and the community in which we work.” It then lists commitments to the specific practices described in this profile.

Environmental Team

Our Annapolis Green Team is open to all employees from all levels of our organization. We identify and implement measures that improve the environmental performance of our office. We meet at least quarterly. The Green Team has 9 members, as of July 2017. Representatives from management, programs, administration, and the communication department are members of the Green Team. We encourage all staff to participate in at least one environmental restoration project per year (including trash cleanups and native plantings).

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

The Alliance’s mission is to lead, support, and inspire local action to restore and protect the lands, rivers, and streams of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. With programs in all six Chesapeake Bay watershed states and the District of Columbia, we have a wide-reaching and diverse impact. The Alliance

works to create connections with the Bay through volunteerism, local programs, and education, including the program [Businesses for the Bay](#).

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

We use environmentally preferable purchasing when making purchasing decisions on office supplies and food. We recognize that environmentally-friendly choices may be slightly more expensive than traditional products (including only using recycled paper in our printer, only purchasing recycled/non-bleached toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels for office use, purchasing environmentally responsible and locally produced food whenever possible, and offering at least one vegetarian or vegan option at all Alliance events).

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

We encourage all staff to participate in at least one environmental restoration project per year (including trash cleanups and native plantings). Annually, all Annapolis staff are invited to participate in [Project Clean Stream](#) during work hours; we pick up trash within a one-mile radius of our office, including roads, parks, and the banks of Spa Creek.

On March 30, 2017, ten Annapolis Office staff participated in a Project Clean Stream clean-up. We picked up 6 bags of trash and recycling, amounting to a whopping 150 pounds!

We also maintain our native plant conservation garden in front of our office at 501 6th Street, Annapolis, MD. On May 17, 2017, ten Annapolis Office staff planted 12 seedling purple coneflowers, 12 seedling butterfly milkweeds, 4 seedling common milkweeds, and 12 seedling black-eyed Susans. Almost all the plants survived and they are flowering right now. Photos of our May 2017 planting event are here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/allianceforthebay/albums/72157682021016820>

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

We save paper by defaulting staff computers to print double-sided and reusing one-sided-printed paper in the printer. We also keep a Brita water pitcher in the refrigerator for staff use instead of buying plastic water bottles or using a bottled water dispenser.

Recycling

Our batteries and printer toners are recycled by environmentally-responsible facilities.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

We improved the energy efficiency of our office by switching to efficient light bulbs, buying only energy efficient appliances (including the new mini office fridge) and computers, and using natural light and fresh air when appropriate instead of overhead lights and A/C.

Transportation

Employee Commute

We carpool whenever possible. We also maintain an office policy that allows staff the option to work from home one day a week, saving on gas and travel time.

Efficient Business Travel

We purchased a teleconferencing program called ClickMeeting; we use this, as well as Google apps, to meet with staff and partners virtually. This cuts down on the amount of travel needed for meetings. We carpool whenever possible.

Water

Stormwater Management and Site Design

We have a goal to install additional stormwater BMPs such as a rain garden or a rain barrel on our office property to reduce stormwater runoff. We already maintain a native conservation landscape at our Annapolis office property; it provides habitat for native wildlife as well as stormwater benefits.



View our video



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

