



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.

Cherry Bekaert LLP



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Public Accounting Firm

Member since April 2019

Management and Leadership



Environmental Policy Statement

Cherry Bekaert, LLP is conscious of and committed to reducing our impact on the environment. Looking ahead to the near future we have big ideas to continue our efforts in reducing our carbon footprint while maintaining our client service expectations and passion for excellence.

Our commitment is not limited to office procedures rather, it extends to our customers, our staff and our community. Our plans include:

- *Consistent innovation of sustainably responsible policies and procedures to help employees reduce their negative impact on the environment*
- *Offering customers environmentally responsible products and services that demonstrate a commitment to sustainability*
- *Meeting with and encouraging our property manager/owners to adopt green practices*
- *Providing incentives for employee participation in green initiatives*



Annual Environmental Goals

In 2019, we plan to change the default of our “Yearly Tax Organizer” which is provided to our clients, to be electronic in format, instead of previously being paper printed and mailed. By 2020, we target a decrease in paper consumption of 10% over the prior year. By 2021, we target an additional decrease in paper consumption of 10% over prior year.

Waste

Recycling

- *Grounds to Grow On recycling program for all components of a K-Cup to be repurposed and the coffee grounds composted. The program saved 382.7 pounds of cups from the landfill for 2018. While utilizing carbon neutral transportation with UPS.*
- *We recycle Plastic cups, bottles, and other plastic products (i.e. silverware)*
- *We recycle Paper*
- *We recycle old electronics*

Energy

Energy Efficiency

- *Retrofit office with eco-friendly lights with motion sensitivity*
- *Eco-friendly refrigeration devices. Reducing the electricity consumption of refrigeration units that are notorious energy hogs.*
- *Green Team Night Watch, members routinely turn off lights in unoccupied rooms and unused areas. (Daily)*
- *New office will utilize energy efficient smart outlets*

Transportation

Employee Commute/Customer Travel

- *We provide video conferencing and other technological solutions that reduce employee travel.*
- *We regularly distribute and provide display for information on transit, car/van pooling, and other commuting alternatives, including Guaranteed Ride Home and Regional Ride-Sharing programs.*
 - *Guaranteed Ride Home provides commuters who regularly, carpool, vanpool, bike, walk, and take public transit a guaranteed ride home for unexpected emergencies. Up to 4 times per year.*
- *We target the encouragement of employees to work from home, bike, walk or use other non-carbon emitting forms of transportation at least once a week.*

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

- “Green Business Certification Program” as certified by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection*



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

