



## 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.

# Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum



213 N. Talbot Street  
St. Michaels, MD 21663  
410-745-4960

[www.cbmm.org](http://www.cbmm.org)

Non-profit museum; destination; maritime museum  
Members since February 2019

## Management and Leadership



### Environmental Policy Statement

*CBMM is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We are dedicated to improving our environmental performance over time and to initiating additional projects and activities that will further reduce our impact on the environment.*

*Our commitment to the environment extends to our guests, staff, and the community in which we operate.*

*We are committed to:*

- *Eliminating single-use plastics on our campus, including the determination and use of sustainable plastic alternatives*
- *Complying with all applicable environmental regulations;*
- *Preventing pollution whenever possible;*
- *Training all of our staff on our environmental program and empower them to contribute and participate;*
- *Communicating our environmental commitment and efforts to our members, guests, staff, and our community; and*
- *Continually improving over time by striving to measure our environmental impact and by setting goals to reduce our impact each year*

**Environmental Team**

*CBMM's Sustainability Committee began meeting in early 2018, when CBMM President Kristen Greenaway asked the committee to prioritize eliminating single-use plastics on CBMM's campus. Comprised of CBMM staff members, the committee meets monthly to identify and implement measures that work to improve the environmental impact of CBMM's facilities and operations.*

*The committee's mission states, "In stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay, its waterways, and land, the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is dedicated to eliminating single-use plastic products on campus. We also acknowledge that alternatives should be as sustainable as possible—a wasteful alternative is not a better alternative to plastic."*

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

*As part of CBMM's initiative to eliminate single-use plastics on campus, the Sustainability Committee has written and trained staff on an institutional Sustainable Purchasing Protocol. This document provides talking points and tips for purchasing, such as being forward about declining a plastic bag, evaluating the packaging of the product being purchased, and inquiring about shipping protocols. A flowchart helps staff walk through the purchasing process, identifying the areas in which they are likely to encounter single-use plastics and providing recommendations for how to avoid these products. This procedure has encouraged staff to change their ingrained behaviors in purchasing, while also reiterating the importance of repeated conversations with suppliers to apply market pressure regarding the need for plastic-free alternatives.*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Each spring, CBMM staff and volunteers participate in Project Clean Stream. Through ShoreRivers' coordination and as part of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Project Clean Stream, the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum hosted a team of volunteers on Saturday, April 7, 2018 to clean up "Heron Haven"—a drainage system running through CBMM's property, and feeding into St. Michaels Harbor and the Miles River. This was CBMM's seventh year participating in the event, with the team collecting 13 bags of trash and five bags of recyclables.*

## Waste

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

*In early 2019, the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum announced its initiative to work toward eliminating single-use plastics at its Miles River campus in St. Michaels, MD. The initiative is being implemented in collaboration with Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, CT, with a goal to provide a benchmark for other maritime museums and their communities to replicate.*

*To start, CBMM has eliminated use of plastics at many of its internal meetings, encouraging participants to bring their own mugs. Glassware in place of plastic cups is also being used for on-campus events. Additionally, CBMM is implementing purchasing procedures that ask suppliers for plastic-free packaging; including buying in bulk to eliminate plastic waste; and identifying areas of campus in need of sustainable infrastructure, such as drinking fountain filling stations.*

*CBMM will present its initiative at the Small Museum Association Conference in College Park, MD in February, 2019, and at the Council of American Maritime Museum's Annual Conference in Manitowoc, WI in April, 2019.*

### **Recycling**

*CBMM participates in campus-wide single-stream recycling, including at CBMM's multiple festivals and within its offices and meeting spaces. Materials recycled include plastics; aluminum and tin cans; scrap metal; cardboard; mixed paper and newspaper; and glass jars and bottles.*

### **Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

*In the maintenance of 36 buildings, CBMM has eliminated the use of oil-based paints and replaced them with latex-based paints. Oil-based paint cleanup requires turpentine or paint thinner. Latex paints have minimal odor and release significantly fewer VOCs during the drying process.*

## Energy

### **Energy Efficiency**

*Over the past six years, CBMM has reduced its electricity consumption by 54% through replacement of incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, and the use of high efficiency electric motors in CBMM's HVAC systems.*

*Additionally, CBMM has eliminated the use of fuel oil throughout campus, and replaced it with clean-burning propane. While heating oil systems have an*

average efficiency of 85%; propane systems have a higher average efficiency at 94%.

*Also, the hot water used in CBMM's marina showers is now heated via an on-demand, tankless propane water heater. These water heaters use up to 40% less energy than older tank water heaters. Alternately, a tank water heater stores the hot water and relies on costly energy consumption to keep the water constantly heated in the tank. The on-demand, tankless water heaters also reduce water usage by eliminating the wait time for the water to warm, providing further efficiencies in the use of energy to heat the water.*

## **Transportation**

### **Efficient Business Travel**

*CBMM has recently installed videoconferencing and teleconferencing equipment in our Board Room and Van Lennep Auditorium, allowing Board members from throughout the United States to attend meetings without the expense of air flight and vehicular transportation. For example, a Board member often attends monthly finance committee meetings and Board of Governors meetings from his home in Houston, Texas, reducing round-trip miles travelled of about 18,000 miles per year. Additionally, another board member telecommutes from Key West during the winter, saving 2,600 miles each round trip by teleconferencing at meetings.*

## **Water**

### **Water Conservation**

*CBMM conserves water through the availability of low-flow toilets with flushometers installed throughout campus. Each flush saves at least 1.4 gallons of water compared to older systems, which adds up when servicing CBMM's 80,000 annual guests.*

*The hot water used in CBMM's marina showers is now heated with an on-demand, tankless propane water heater, which reduces water usage by eliminating the wait time for the water to warm.*

*Additionally, CBMM tends many of its gardens utilizing collected water from two rain barrels on campus, which conserves hundreds of gallons of water over the course of a year.*

### **Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*CBMM utilizes native landscaping and plants to assist with natural drainage and stormwater management. These plants can be strategically found*

*in rain gardens, rain swales, and other locations that help mitigate stormwater and runoff.*

*Additionally, CBMM has replaced all of its Foggs Cove bulkheading with a living shoreline, helping to filter stormwater going into the Miles River and Chesapeake Bay, and providing habitat for many of the Chesapeake's creatures.*

## Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities



*CBMM is a certified [Maryland Clean Marina](#). The Maryland Clean Marina Initiative recognizes and promotes marinas, boatyards and yacht clubs of any size that meet legal requirements and voluntarily adopt pollution prevention practices.*

*In 2016, the Midshore Riverkeeper Conservancy (now ShoreRivers) and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum unveiled the first ever pump out boat on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, with more than 8,500 gallons of waste pumped from nearly 350 boats in the first year of operation alone. During 2017, the boat pumped more than 12,000 gallons of waste from 400 boats. ShoreRivers exceeded its 2018 goal by pumping more than 15,000 gallons of waste.*

*CBMM donates free dockage, storage, and use of a land-based pump-out station to off-load the waste from the pump-out boat, which is then transferred to the updated St. Michaels Wastewater Treatment Plant.*



*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)*

