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.

Family Farm Direct, LLC

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FamilyFarmDirect.com
Farm Aggregator/Food Distribution
Member since May 2025

Management and Leadership

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

We have chosen to direct delivery to reduce the need for insulated packaging and more energy consumption from temperature controlled logistics. We provide a fresher product with less energy by focusing on the local consumers.

☑ **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

We opt to have all of our food products sourced from farms that use ethical and sustainable practices. Then we also direct our processor to continue that effort by using natural ingredients in any processing necessary

☑ **Ecological Restoration and Community Environmental Projects**

Our producers have participated in numerous stream conservation, land restoration, and conservation plantings.

☑ **Environmental Management System (EMS)**

We are participating in the Certified local Maryland Farm Program. That programs Requires that all certified local farms be in compliant with all nutrient management standards

Waste

☑ **Composting**

Most of our food processing past and any waste product involved in production is composted and land applied according to our nutrient management plans.

Energy

☑ **Renewable Energy**

We have use solar hot water for our dairy facilities, Solar arrays to power our ventilation in cattle barns, and biogass for general power production.

Water

☑ **Water Conservation**

When livestock are excluded from streamside areas through fencing and regenerative practices are implemented, studies have shown up to a 50–60% reduction in sediment losses. This is achieved by stabilizing the stream banks and reducing the direct impact of soil disturbance from grazing. Such reductions are measured by comparing sediment loads before and after the adoption of these practice.

Nutrient Loads (Nitrogen and Phosphorus):
The combined use of cover cropping, no-till methods, and rotational grazing limits the direct deposition of manure to the stream. This significantly reduces the runoff of nitrogen and phosphorus—often ranging from 30–40% compared to baseline conditions. Routine water quality testing, including grab samples and laboratory analyses, aids in verifying these improvements.

Soil Organic Matter:
Implementing cover crops and no-till management helps the soil retain moisture and build organic content. Over a three-year period, field studies have documented increases in soil organic matter in the range of 8–10%. This not only enhances soil health but also improves water infiltration, thereby further curtailing surface runoff .

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

There are a great amount of awards held by our producers regarding conservation. Conservation steward ship awards from county government and the USDA are but a few examples.