Life Technologies

About Life Technologies
Life Technologies, now part of Thermo Fisher Scientific, is a biotechnology company located in Frederick. They have 585 employees and manufacture Food and Drug Administration regulated products, assays and advanced cells systems used in a variety of applications for the life science research and medical community.
Life Technologies is the first three-time winner of a Maryland Green Registry Leadership Award. They have achieved this distinction by setting and meeting ambitious goals in 2012, 2013 and 2014. This year, the Frederick Green Team took on the challenge of becoming a zero waste site while continuing to make significant progress in reducing energy and water usage.

Achievements

- **Zero Waste Certification:** In January 2014, the Life Technologies Frederick Site was certified a Zero Waste Facility by the U.S. Zero Waste Business Council. This required verification of the diversion of more than 90% of their waste from landfills and incineration through waste reduction, reuse and recycling. The site diverted over two million pounds of waste, reducing landfill waste by nearly half. Their Zero Waste initiatives, which have saved the company $623,000 in one year, include packaging reduction, reuse projects, raw material right-sizing, ambient product conversions, hazardous waste reduction, and ongoing and new recycling initiatives including Styrofoam recycling, food waste composting and metal recycling, which helped fund new environmental initiatives.

- **Energy and Water Use:** The Frederick Site’s Environmental, Health, and Safety Department and Facilities staff meet biweekly to ensure continuing progress in reducing both utilities usage and waste. Security staff perform daily utility and waste audits, identifying water leaks, lights and equipment that have been left on and improper waste sorting. The site is on track to reduce electricity usage this year by 310,585 kWh in the laboratory building and water usage by 1,084,780 gallons.

- **Bike-Friendly:** Life Technologies has developed a bike-friendly workplace for employees and visitors and has designated an employee “Bike Champion” to organize activities and inform employees about transit routes.

- **Community Garden:** In April 2014, the Frederick Site established a new community garden with rainwater collection where employees are able to rent plots and grow their own food at work.

The Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have shown a strong commitment to the implementation of sustainable practices, the demonstration of measurable results, and the continual improvement of environmental performance.

www.green.maryland.gov/registry