



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.

Pete Pappas and Sons Inc.



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Tomato re-packer and produce distributor

Member since October 2019

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

At Pete Pappas & Sons, we've always seen sustainability as the opportunity for innovation, within our building and operations, to lessen their environmental impacts. We have applied protocols conserve energy and use less water throughout our buildings and implemented "Green Goals" for our business as described below.

Environmental Team

Our "Green Team" includes members from our management, QA, office, sales, production and warehouse teams. They are champions of our efforts and underwent training on the 3 R's and our 6-Step Recycling and Composting Waste Diversion protocol. They are helping us on the way to our goal of zero waste and have helped us spearhead our latest recycling and composting efforts.

Annual Environmental Goals

Our Environmental and Green Goals include:

1. *Becoming a Zero-Waste Facility*
 - a. *A zero-waste goal means that we strive to create no trash to send to landfills in our day-to-day operations. We have applied the 3 R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) and have begun to divert all of our facility waste, through an extensive recycling and compost plan, instead of to landfills.*

2. *Putting an Emphasis on Organics through*
 - a. *Maintaining a USDA Organic certification at headquarters and our farm*
 - b. *Selling organic products, which reduces the overall environmental impacts of the farming and growing stages of our products*
 - c. *Trademarking our own in-house USDA Certified Organic brand, Pete's Garden*
 - d. *Expanding our organic produce offerings, including our Pete's Garden Organic brand, across different commodities and packaging options*
3. *Furthering our Green Business Efforts*
 - a. *By growing our green business certifications*
 - b. *Applying innovative techniques to grow our Green Business*
4. *Focusing on "Thinking Globally and Acting Locally" by*
 - a. *Boosting the local economy by bringing jobs and business opportunities to the area*
 - b. *Partnering with local growers and farms to promote our local agriculture*
 - c. *Supporting local composting initiatives through the Maryland Environmental Service with the use of our own organic food matter to create compost and animal feed for local farms*
 - d. *Using local businesses within our day-to-day operations to help them grow with us*
 - e. *Donating to local food banks including thousands of pounds of our produce a year*

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

Our facility, and some of its' products, is certified Organic by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. By selling organic products, the environmental impact of the farming stages of those commodities is greatly reduced. Environmentally harmful chemicals are not used, so ongoing chemical damage to the soil, water sources and surrounding areas is not created.

Waste

Recycling

Our protocol includes recycling all facility paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, plastic wrap, aluminum cans, wood pallets.

Composting

We have an extensive composting protocol through the Maryland Environmental Service that delivers all of our organic food matter locally to create both compost and animal feed. We compost roughly 60 tons (120,000 lbs.) to 80 tons (160,000 lbs.) of organic food waste per week.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

To conserve energy, our 120,000 sf building has been outfitted with LED lighting and sensors that turn the lights on and off automatically based on movement in each cooler or area. This reduces our energy usages significantly!

Transportation

Efficient Fleet Vehicles

We expertly plan our transportation routes and logistics to reduce the number of trips we take, number of miles we drive and numbers of trucks we have on the road.

Water

Water Conservation

To conserve water and reduce paper waste, our building faucets and hand dryers are all automatic implementing water conservation.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

Pete Pappas & Sons has achieved the following certifications:

*U.S. Department of Agriculture Certified Organic
Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Organic
Howard County Work Green Business Recycling Certification*



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

