



## 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.

# Sterling Quality Water



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[www.sterlingqualitywater.net](http://www.sterlingqualitywater.net)

Home water treatment & filtration service  
Member since February 2018

## Management and Leadership



### **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

*One of our company visions is to educate and increase public awareness on sustainable living with filtered home water. We share information on the following topics:*

- *How a water softener can reduce and or eliminate home cleaning products or chemicals used to condition soaps.*
- *How soft water can maintain efficiency of home water appliances such as a hot water heater or dishwasher with less potential of build up from hard water mineral on heating elements and less energy is used to maintain hot water.*
- *How home drinking water filtration can eliminate the waste of using bottled water. We provide home drinking water units for cooking and drinking water and encourage our customers to “drink local” by “filtering your own tap.”*
- *We also encourage home water testing to ensure safe use of home drinking water for those who say they don’t drink their own well water. We provide education at local events and festivals with our campaign “End the waste” eliminate the bottle with home filtration.*
- *We also try to educate the home owner on lawn practices that impact their well water quality, such as high nitrate levels.*

*Our systems use fewer caustic chemicals for the treatment of acidic water, hard water and bacteria and reduce the amount of sodium used in flushing a water softener. In addition, our products reduce the number of*

*gallons of water a softener must use to recharge and filter and our tanks are made from locally manufactured stainless steel.*

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

*Our main vendor is located in Carlisle, PA and we drive to its warehouse weekly to cut back on shipping costs, packaging waste, and carbon footprint from large freight shipping. We drive a fuel efficient vehicle to make this trip.*

*Our product line is a stainless steel tank unlike most polyglass or other plastic filter products. We look for reusable filters for the customer to get an extended life than a disposable product. We also look for water conservation flushing valves to reduce water waste.*

*We use a type of softener salt called SOLAR salt which is evaporated seawater, rather than pellet salt which is mined salt from the great lakes. Our main mineral vendor is from Maryland.*

*Our limestone chip is mined in southern PA and shipped locally. Our uniform shirts are made from recycled bottle water.*

**Waste**

**Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*We reduce packaging waste by not having products shipped to us.*

**Recycling**

*We recycle about 90% of our company waste through our county landfill. The materials include cardboard, paper products, plastics, construction plastics (PVC filter housings), plastic bags, metals (plumbing copper and brass), steel tanks, electronic controls, and wood pallets. As a company, we go out of our way by sorting and making special trips to the county recycling center. We estimate that the recycling of PVC plastic, cardboard, steel, copper, and brass metal plumbing amounts to 6,000 lbs. per year.*

**Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

*Our applications of treatment reduce the need for other methods of water treatment that use caustic chemicals. We recycle ultra violet light bulbs which contain mercury at our local hardware store. We use ultra violet light to treat bacteria in water than injecting chlorine into the home water and waste.*

## Energy

### Energy Efficiency

*We recently replaced 7 110-watt fluorescent ceiling fixtures in our office and show room with new 40-watt flat panel LEDs, saving 1,252 kWh annually. Our store sign is also on a timer to reduce wasted night lighting.*

## Transportation

### Efficient Business Travel

*Our office is centrally located to our county to dispatch service trucks to customers. Our service trucks are tooled correctly for the jobs to eliminate travel back and forth and our employees car pool to customer jobs sites.*

*We get 75% of our products from a local manufacturer that we pick up with a fuel-efficient vehicle to reduce cross-country shipping costs and carbon footprint. We also order in bulk to reduce travel for supplies.*



*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)*

