



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.

WGL Holdings, Inc./Washington Gas



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Energy / Utility

Member since February 2011

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

WGL Holdings, Inc. promotes the use of clean and efficient energy to improve our environment for the benefit of our customers, investors, employees and the communities we serve. We strive to be responsible environmental stewards as we deliver the products and services that meet our customers' energy needs. We use resources efficiently in our business processes and encourage our employees and customers to do the same.

Environmental Team

In 2008, the Company formally launched its Greenhouse Gas Advisory Council to implement sustainable business practices and customer solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the environment. As an outcome of that effort the company created an Executive level position to lead its Sustainability Strategy with support from an inter-disciplinary Advisory Council that included 10 senior executives from Washington Gas and affiliate companies. The team acts as executive sponsors for a range of initiatives from teleworking, to green procurement, educational initiatives and infrastructure replacement and efficiency measures.

Since that time, we have deeply embedded sustainability practices throughout the organization while simultaneously introducing multiple products, services and offering to help our customers adopt more sustainable practices.

Annual Environmental Goals; Long Range Targets

WGL has set ambitious sustainability targets for 2025 and unveiled new clean energy initiatives to meet its aspirations.

By 2025, WGL will achieve carbon neutral fleet and facilities operations, reduce emission intensity of its natural gas distribution system by 38 percent (against a 2008 baseline). These objectives are part of a continued commitment to sustainable business practices, community improvement and environmental health. These targets are in line with the Paris Agreement targets and with Science-Based Targets Initiative methodology for the company's business sector, falling in the "Below 2°C" scenario.

WGL's 2025 targets reflect an update to targets the company set in 2012 for 2020 but achieved in 2014, and reflect aggressive strategies to help customers reduce energy use and shift to more renewable energy options. The company will track progress each year as part of our annual goals that are tied to executive compensation.

In addition the company recycles or composts 50% of its waste and one third of eligible employees participate in some form of telework arrangement, reducing environmental impact, cost and time spent in traffic.

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

WGL delivers a full spectrum of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy offerings, including electricity, natural gas, renewable energy, carbon reduction, distributed generation and energy efficiency solutions provided by WGL Energy Services, Inc. and WGL Energy Systems, Inc.

Our core utility, Washington Gas helps businesses and residential customers find ways to efficiently use natural gas, the cleanest fossil fuel source. We supply local governments with clean natural gas fuel to fleets and buses across the region and are supplying clean fuel to a fleet of trash trucks in Montgomery County. Natural gas vehicles can achieve up to a 93% reduction in carbon monoxide emissions, 33% reduction in nitrogen oxides emissions, and a 50% reduction in reactive hydrocarbons in comparison with gasoline vehicles. We also supply rebates and energy savings advice through billing inserts.

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

Washington Gas has instituted a Green Procurement Policy that gives preference to products that meet certain environmental standards. Vendors are also evaluated and scored based on their sustainable business practices.

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Our Community Service team has logged over 12,200 hours on projects in to support a variety of projects that enhance the quality of life across our region. Listed below are representative projects that have been undertaken in or around Maryland recently, most of which have been occurring annually for several or more years:

- *WGL volunteers helped plant trees at Lady Brook Farm in Monkton, MD. The Earth Day-related effort was a joint project with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Sterling Planet to restore six acres of forest to help stimulate a new sustainable agriculture farm. We have done this for 8 consecutive earth day tree plantings*
- *April 14 is our designated day for Earth Day 2018. We will be participating in two stream clean-ups; One in southern Prince George’s County and the other in Arlington, VA, at Four Mile Run. Our partners are Accokeek Foundation and Alice Ferguson Foundation.*
- *Our annual Day of Weatherization started in Oct. 2007 and continues to be our largest employee volunteer event. To date we have weatherized more than 1,000 homes for lower-income neighbors. For the second year, WGL partnered with GRID Alternatives, a not-for-profit solar installation organization, to provide roof top solar panels on an affordable housing apartment building. The electricity generated by the solar array will power all common areas for the 94-unit building complex and the savings from this installation will be invested in the refurbishment of tenet apartments to increase energy efficiency and lower heating costs. Tenant units will also be upgraded with new windows, new heating and cooling units, new energy efficient kitchen appliances, and water heaters for better energy efficiency and lower heating costs for the more than 185 residents.*

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

- *E-Bills reduce 25 million envelopes mailed.*
- *E-delivery of our annual report saves nearly 25 tons of paper annually. We were one of the first companies in the nation to adopt SEC’s e-delivery initiative.*
- *Adoption of E-pay statements and E-1099 eliminate approximately 40,000 mailed packages per year.*
- *Designed customer brochures that don’t require an envelope, saving paper; key emphasis on on-line marketing and social media (Washingtongas.com).*
- *Switched all paper printing defaults to double-sided.*
- *“Family –style catering”; no Styrofoam coffee cups at Corporate HQ events or in the operations center’s cafeteria.*

- *Filtered water throughout the Operations Center and water pitchers in catering areas discourage the use of bottled water.*
- *Removed individual trashcans on two floors of Headquarters Operations Center*

Recycling

At six Washington Gas sites, we diverted approximately 51% by weight of our unwanted materials to our single stream recycling program (paper, metal, glass and plastic). We expect composting and increased education, including our Earth Day campaign and an emphasis on e-waste to increase our results in 2018. Washington Gas has a recycle/donate program for all non-sensitive e-waste materials.

Composting

Washington Gas has implemented a food waste collection program in the cafeteria, which is turned into compost for nine local farms in Maryland.

Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

The hazardous waste coordinator assists Washington Gas operations shops in identifying areas for waste minimization and helps to implement them. The following guidelines have been developed to prevent or minimize hazardous waste generation at Washington Gas:

- *100% recycling of fluorescent and HID lamps, ballasts, mercury containing equipment and non-alkaline batteries.*
- *100% recycling of used oil and antifreeze.*
- *Maintain a limited inventory of chemicals. Instruct employees to only purchase what is needed.*
- *Continuously monitor or develop a running inventory of chemicals on hand. Track unused chemicals for possible use by other departments to help redistribute surplus chemicals.*
- *Reduce or eliminate the use of toxic chemicals by substituting safer, non-hazardous materials.*
- *Replace mercury regulators.*

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Since we joined the Registry, Washington Gas' Facilities Department has conducted multiple energy audits on its facilities and has replaced and upgraded air handling, HVAC, and lighting throughout. We set an annual target for Facilities projects which we track on our scorecard. As noted, the cumulative effect of multiple enhancements, new LEED gold buildings, automatic window

shades, and distributed natural gas energy installations resulted in an absolute reduction of 72% in GHG emissions from a 2008 baseline, exceeding our 2020 target. We now plan to make our fleet and facilities carbon neutral by 2025.

We also provide numerous energy efficiency programs and services to our customers. These range from sustainable energy tips in our “Energy of the City” magazine to behavioral awareness programs offered in conjunction with our vendor Opower, an online energy management platform for commercial customers of WGL Energy.

Transportation

Employee Commute

We offer teleworking and/or flexwork to eligible employees and provide training to supervisors. Since launching our “Reduce the Commute” program in March 2010, we have reduced road miles travelled by over 1,500,000 miles. The program earned an “Employer Recognition Award” for doubling participation in TeleWork, from Commuter Connections in 2017. In that one year WGL employees avoided commuting 276,275 miles, saving 12,237 gallons of gas and avoiding 117 MTCO₂ emissions. They also saved 13,674 hours not sitting in – or contributing to – traffic congestion.

Fleet Vehicles

As of April 1, 2018, Washington Gas’s fleet includes 221 compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles, a 66% increase since we first joined the Registry in 2012. CNG vehicles, on average, produce 25 percent less GHG emissions. Per vehicle savings are estimated at \$5,700, largely due to the lower per gallon equivalent cost of natural gas when compared to higher cost gasoline.

In addition, we use GPS tracking equipment to monitor idling and provide for more efficient routes that save fuel.

In 2015 we opened two of our CNG stations to the public – one in Frederick and one in Forestville – to make CNG benefits more accessible to those in our community. Revenue from these stations is returned to our ratepayers.

Water

Water Conservation

Washington Gas has installed low flow and automatic faucets and dual flush toilets in many of its offices.

Stormwater Management and Site Design

Washington Gas follows the Maryland Standards for Erosion and Sediment Control to control the adverse impacts associated with soil erosion and sedimentation at construction sites throughout Maryland. By following the best management practices, Washington Gas helps to reduce the stormwater runoff by controlling the construction sites during the project and stabilizing the soil after the projects have been completed.

Additionally, Washington Gas utilizes innovative techniques for “smart construction” that reduce the construction footprint and therefore reduce the potential for stormwater runoff. An example is the Keyhole Technology used by Washington Gas Field Operations. "Keyholing" is the process of making a small, precisely controlled excavation to access buried utilities, for the purpose of locating, inspection, or perform repair and maintenance. This technology allows Washington Gas to perform inspection and maintenance that meet certain thresholds with minimum soil disturbance. The process also vastly minimizes the amount of paving and traffic disruption that occurs as a result of street repairs. The equipment manufacturer estimates that, on average, use of keyhole technology reduces greenhouse gas emissions per job by over 75%.

Green Building

LEED Gold

Our Rockville, MD Fleet Facility earned LEED Gold in 2017. It joins our LEED Gold Operations Center in Springfield, VA, which opened in 2012. We also lease LEED Silver space for our WGL Energy affiliate. Our Corporate offices are located in a LEED Gold certified building.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

Founding member or strong supporting partner and/or Board members of organizations dedicated to energy efficiency and GHG reductions:

- *The Association of Climate Change Officers*
- *The Alliance to Save Energy*
- *EPA Methane Challenge Program*
- *EPA Natural STAR Program*
- *Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition*
- *Climate Energy & Environment Policy Committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments*

- *Clean Air Partners*
- *ACORE*
- *Arlington County Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force*
- *D.C. Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) Advisory Board*
- *Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund Advisory Board*
- *Green Committee, Greater Washington Board of Trade*
- *Earth Share Green Team*

Washington Gas has been recognized as a Most Trusted Brand for three years in a row based on a nationwide survey of residential customers published in a 2019 Cogent Syndicated Report. Washington Gas posted high scores on many fronts, including community involvement and environmental dedication.

2012, 2015, 2016 Virginia Department of Transportation Business Partner Appreciation Award to Washington Gas for successful telecommuting program

2014 and 2011 Green Power Supplier of the Year Award Winner to Washington Gas Energy Services

Profile Updated July 2020

