



2016 Leadership Award Winner

# Straughan Environmental, Inc.



## About Straughan Environmental, Inc.

Straughan Environmental, Inc., located in Columbia, Maryland, provides high quality planning, engineering, and management solutions to government and commercial clients. Their dedicated team of engineers, planners and scientists use collaborative approaches that result in better outcomes for projects, people and the environment.



**STRAUGHAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL**

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## Achievements

**Commitment to Green Building:** Achieved LEED Gold certification for Commercial Interiors in the build out of new office space for its headquarters.

**Environmental Management System (EMS):** Ensures continual improvement of environmental performance in the areas of energy, water, and waste through implementation of an EMS with annual goals.

- Sets and tracks progress on annual energy use goals through Energy Star Portfolio Manager and conserves energy with Energy Star appliances and computers.
- Conserves water with high efficiency plumbing fixtures.
- Reduces solid waste by tracking all waste streams and has increased the office recycling rate to 55%.

**Green Team:** Meets monthly to improve and expand upon programs that decrease the firm's overall environmental footprint. Conducts quarterly "Lunch and Learn" sessions to inform, educate, and involve staff on current sustainability initiatives.

**Composting:** Launched a new office compost program that collects food waste from the kitchen area and composts it onsite. The compost is then used for an office garden with herb and flowers that attract native pollinators.

**Helping the Birds and the Bees:** Implemented a bird protection program by installing vertical cords on the exterior of windows to deter birds from window strikes, a leading cause of bird fatalities in North America. Also, maintains an office beehive that supports the pollination of blooming plants within a five-mile radius and provides honey for the office kitchen.



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.