

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.

# **BAHOUKAS Antique Mall & Beer MuZeum**

408 N Union Ave Havre de Grace, MD 21078 410-942-1290 www.bahoukas.com Retail / resellers *Member since August 2011* 

## Management and Leadership

## **Environmental Policy Statement:**

BAHOUKAS Antique Mall & Beer MuZeum is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We will strive to improve our environmental performance over time and to initiate additional projects and activities that will further reduce our impacts on the environment.

Our commitment to the environment extends to our customers, our staff, and the community in which we operate. We are committed to:

- Comply with all applicable environmental regulations;
- Prevent pollution whenever possible;
- Train all of our staff on our environmental program and empower them to contribute and participate;
- Communicate our environmental commitment and efforts to our customers, staff, and our community; and
- Continually improve over time by striving to measure our environmental impacts and by setting goals to reduce these impacts each year.

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

The nature of our business is "green" - reselling quality goods that have lasted for generations and built to last for many more. Over 90% of the merchandise that we purchase for our store is used items. Many of these items would have otherwise gone to a landfill. We feel good about the work we do to both preserve history, and reduce the negative impact of our throw-away society. Sometimes it seems that the market drives us to buy items with built-in obsolescence deliberately made to last only a certain amount of time before needing replacement. Examples of this are found in new furniture (mostly pressboard), and electronics. Such practice is good for manufacturers since it increases the likelihood of customers needing replacement goods, but bad for our environment (and our pocketbooks) since it adds to the landfill and costs us money. "Back in the day" things were built to last – and we still have them. We help the community fight back by giving them the opportunity to buy quality goods made to last a lifetime – antique and vintage!!

In 2013, BAHOUKAS opened the GreenJoy section of the store focusing on eco-friendly products including heirloom organic seeds, glass straws, vegan cookbooks, and shopping bags, purses, sandwich wraps, and wine totes up-cycled from estate linens. GreenJoy products are produced on the premises, eliminating all transportation costs and impacts.

## **Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

One of the co-owners, Barbara Wagner, started the Havre de Grace "Green Team" – a grass roots organization originally formed under the Havre de Grace Main Street umbrella in January of 2011, but is now operating separately and currently pursuing nonprofit status. A Green Team sponsored Community Garden Program was started in 2012 with one garden, and expanded to 4 gardens in 2013. The Green Team is also pursuing a Trails Initiative, Green Business Initiative, and a Recycling Initiative. The Green Team also maintains an active Facebook page with green tips and information for the community.

#### <u>Waste</u>

# Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

By reselling quality goods that may have otherwise ended up in a landfill, reuse is the nature and mission of our business. Our GreenJoy product line also promotes re-use by up-cycling estate linens which are used to create reusable shopping bags, silverware carriers, and sandwich wraps. In addition, we re-use boxes and packing materials and paper whenever possible.

## Recycling

BAHOUKAS Antique Mall recycles: cardboard, paper, cans (on site soda machine), and plastic. Recycling containers are also available for customer use. In the residence above the store, recycling is standard practice as well. In addition, all compostable materials are composted on site.

#### Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

BAHOUKAS Antique Mall uses non-toxic cleaning products whenever possible. Phosphate free detergents are used when soap is desired, vinegar mixtures are uses for glass and metal cleaning (i.e. brass cleaner/polish: equal parts vinegar/salt/flour as a paste)

#### <u>Water</u>

 $\checkmark$ 

## Stormwater Management and Site Design

In 2013, BAHOUKAS installed a 300-gallon rainwater collection tank collecting stormwater from one of its many roofs. The collected rainwater is used to water the vegetable garden on premises which feeds the owners (who consume a mostly plant-based, whole foods diet.) Future stormwater collection tanks are planned.

#### **Energy**

## **Energy Efficiency**

BAHOUKAS has participated in BGE's lighting program. Their lighting audit was performed 6/10/2011. BAHOUKAS has signed a commitment to make the recommended changes via DEL Electric. Work to be completed August 2011. This <u>measureable</u> change in lighting system will result in the following savings:

- Estimated Lighting load- Wattage savings: 3,186 Watts
- Estimated Lighting usage- KWH Savings: 8,769 KWH
- Estimated Annual Lighting Bill- Savings: \$1,227.70

Sometime in the near future we plan to get a whole building energy audit and hope to institute changes based on their recommendations. The BAHOUKAS building was initially built in 1880 so would benefit from further retrofits (insulation, updated heating systems etc.)



## **Transportation**

# **Employee Commute**

Both employees (co-owners) have relocated their residence to onsite (above the store) reducing employee commute trips to ZERO.

Profile Updated June 2013



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Learn more at www.green.maryland.gov/registry