



## 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.

# Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company

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Coffee Roaster

Member since April 2012

### Management and Leadership

#### Environmental Policy Statement

*At CBRC, we strive to create the Chesapeake Bay-region's finest, sustainably roasted organic, fair trade coffee. Our growth supports initiatives that help improve the livability of the communities in which we work, live and play by helping improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay.*

See <http://www.cbrccoffee.com> to learn about our evolving efforts at giving back and environmental activities.

#### Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

*Our largest purchasing power is in the green coffee beans we purchase which are sourced from around the globe. Approximately 65% of our coffees are classified as Fair Trade and Organic. In order to buy coffees with this designation CBRC is required to pay premiums for these beans and adhere to strict production controls, especially for the products that carry the USDA organic label. This includes using cleaning products that are safer for the environment and controlling the separation of conventional and organic coffees throughout the whole production process.*

*In 2014 CBRC paid an estimated \$104,184 in Fair Trade and Organic premiums, of which \$62,511 can be classified as Organic premiums on the coffee beans we purchased. What this means is that CBRC not only paid the standard market price for our coffee beans, but then paid an additional amount to guarantee that the beans were sourced from Organically classified fields, within*

*environments that promote organic farming, and which are shipped and warehoused in certified manners, up to the entry in our warehouse. The premiums paid are used by the cooperatives and plantations to ensure organic practices and products are used, promote organic use within the society and train community farmers in organic use practices.*

*An example of just one organic farm that CBRC buys coffee from can be seen at: <http://www.cocafelol.org/> (note, the site is mostly in Spanish, but does do a good job portraying the issues that organic farming entails and why a premium is justified)*

*Regarding other purchasing decisions:  
We buy everything we can from sustainable and local producers. For example, our cans are manufactured in Baltimore. We are working with a regional bulk tea producer to replace our out-of-state purchases and we used a local courier service wherever possible instead of national delivery companies.*

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

*In addition to ensuring that our coffee is fair trade and organic as described above, we also ensure that our packaging is the most sustainable possible. Our retail can is made of 100% recyclable steel. The label is biodegradable and we use soy ink in our packaging. See <http://blog.recycle-steel.org/2012/04/chesapeake-bay-roasting-companycbrc-has.html> for more information.*

*Our larger food service and bulk packaging is made of bio and omnidegradable paper made by the Tekpak company. Information on Omnidegradable packaging can be found at [www.tekpaksolutions.com/discovery.php](http://www.tekpaksolutions.com/discovery.php). According to Tekpak: Omnidegradable products do not depend on water, heat, sunlight, or oxygen to degrade.*

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

*In 2015 CBRC Coffee launched a new commitment to the Oyster Recovery Partnership, the region's leading non-profit organization that restores oysters to the Bay. Our goal is to provide funding based on coffee sales, to enable the replanting to grow. The CBRC commitment is that for every pound of coffee we sell, CBRC will provide the funds for the replanting of 20-25 oysters.*

*See <http://cbrccoffee.com/giving-back-sustainability/> for more information and the latest updates.*

*In addition, CBRC supports numerous local environmental activities. The following are the environmental events and organizations that we have supported since 2014:*

*Sponsorship of the Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative  
Annual South River on the Half Shell  
Annual 5K on the Bay  
Living Classrooms  
Annual Treasure the Chesapeake  
Earth Day  
Aqua Eagles program  
Clean the Beach Day  
Bands in the Sand  
Project Green 9/11 day of service – Park clean up  
Kenilworth Park Clean up  
Mermaids Kiss Oyster Fest  
Across the Bay 10 K and Expo  
Anacostia River Clean up – Pope Branch Park Clean Up Day  
MD Buyer/Grower Expo  
Watershed Stewards  
Watershed protection fundraiser  
Save the Bay Day - Lake Waterford Park Clean-up and Garden planting*

## **Waste**

### **Composting**

*In January of 2015 CBRC started donating all of our compostable materials to the Anne Arundel Master Gardener program. Each week a member of the Master Gardener program picks up approximately 75 pounds of coffee grounds and roasted chaff. These products are used in the Composting demonstration plot that the Master Gardener program runs at the Quiet Waters Park.*

*This alone will account for up to 4000 lbs of composting material going back into the environment and being used to train individuals in composting.*

*More information about our efforts in this area can be found at:  
<http://cbrccoffee.com/coffee-roasting-products-used-county-composting-exhibition/>*

## Energy

### **Energy Efficiency**

*The majority of our energy usage is consumed via our commercial coffee roaster, a Deidrich CR120 and the catalytic oxidizer after burner which minimizes the smoke that a roaster produces. This roaster and afterburner uses natural gas to roast coffee and burn off any by products. As a fuel source the use of natural gas is the cleanest commonly used fuel source for roasting coffee. When burned with the proper air flow, the byproducts of using natural gas are carbon dioxide and water.*

*In 2014, our estimate gas usage was 19,295 therms, which is the equivalent of approximately 565,339 kWh of electricity. In comparison, the rest of our business operation used 174,031 kWh for the entire year.*

### **Renewable Energy**

*In early 2014, CBRC was forced to return to the utilization of conventional energy supply as a result of the bankruptcy of the CleanCurrents company, the clean energy firm that we had been purchasing our electricity from. As a result, in December 2014 CBRC decided to pay for the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits to offset the production of both our electric and natural gas use (approximately 740,000 kWh). The certificate for these REC purchases is posted on the wall of our office. A copy of this can be seen at the link: <http://cbrccoffee.com/giving-back-sustainability/>*

**Profile Updated April 2015**



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

*Learn more at [www.green.maryland.gov/registry](http://www.green.maryland.gov/registry)*

