



## 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.

# Maryland Department of General Services



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<http://www.dgs.maryland.gov/>  
State Government  
Member since April 2010

## Management and Leadership



### Environmental Team

*DGS chairs and staffs the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee, an interagency committee created by the Green Maryland Act of 2010 and tasked with providing the State with education and training promoting environmentally preferable purchasing. The Green Purchasing Committee meets quarterly, though its subcommittees may meet more often.*

<https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/GreenPurchasing/index.aspx>

*GPC Statutory Members include:*

- *Department of General Services*
- *Department of Budget and Management*
- *Department of Environment*
- *Department of Health*
- *Department of Information Technology*
- *Department of Natural Resources*
- *Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services*
- *Department of State Treasurer*
- *Department of Transportation*
- *University System of Maryland*

*DGS also staffs the State of [Maryland Green Building Council](#), which is comprised of experts in green building design and construction from both the private sector and state government.*

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

*As staff to the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee, DGS develops and maintains environmentally preferable specifications for commodities and services. In order to reduce our carbon footprint; protect our natural resources; prevent air, water, and soil pollution; and support public health, the GPC encourages the purchase of products that:*

- *Have environmentally conscious manufacturing processes*
- *Reduce the use of raw materials*
- *Do not use hazardous or toxic substances*
- *Are biodegradable or recyclable*
- *Are energy-efficient*

*The specifications can be found on the DGS website at the following link:*  
<https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/GreenPurchasing/Resources/Specifications.aspx>

*The Department of General Services, through its work with the Green Purchasing Committee, also ensures that the procurements of electronics, office supplies, and lighting products are compliant with environmentally preferable standards. The State of Maryland requires all purchases of electronic products and energy-consuming products to be EPEAT Silver or Gold certified. When EPEAT certification is not available, a product must be ENERGY STAR certified. Both EPEAT and ENERGY STAR certifications require eligible products to meet criteria (e.g. ROHS standard) that limits the use of hazardous materials in the product.*

## **Waste**

**Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*DGS promotes the reuse of surplus property through govdeals.com auctions. The Surplus Property Division of DGS offers used items for sale that may otherwise end up in landfills. In FY2019, DGS diverted \$73,569.00 worth of office furniture from the landfill. Because the production of new supplies is highly resource and energy intensive, by reusing and repurposing these materials, the State of Maryland reduced the consumption of additional resources to create these products. Maryland's active involvement in the Federal Surplus Property Program also reduced its expenditures (because these items are available free of charge), shifting that spend to other beneficial programs and initiatives. More information can be found here:*  
<https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/SurplusProperty/Federal.aspx>

**Recycling**

*DGS recycles paper, cardboard, plastic containers and aluminum cans at all facilities. Other materials recycled at some, but not all, facilities are: light tubes, toner*

cartridges, electronics and organics. Leased space is subject to the provisions of Section 9-1706 et.seq. of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland (Recycling Plan for State Government) requiring participation in applicable State Recycling plans and making provision for the collection and disposal of recyclable materials.

More information on State Agency Recycling, including information specific to the Department of General Services, can be found here:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/RecyclingandOperationsprogram/Pages/allStar.aspx>

The Department of General Services, through the Inventory Standards & Support Services Division (ISSSD), also manages electronics recycling for the State of Maryland; recycling is conducted by a R2 certified environmentally responsible recycler. By doing so, in 2019 the State was able to: save 226,000 kWh of energy; avoid 6,400 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions; avoid 171,375 lbs. of municipal solid waste; and avoid 6,776 lbs. of hazardous waste. The State of Maryland received Silver Level recognition in the State Electronics Challenge, due in part to its ongoing initiative to responsibly recycle e-waste.

For more information, [https://www.stateelectronicschallenge.net/partner\\_recognition\\_2019.html](https://www.stateelectronicschallenge.net/partner_recognition_2019.html)

## **Energy**



### **Energy Efficiency**

DGS tracks the energy consumption and cost for all utility accounts paid in the State's name. The State Energy Database supports energy efficiency initiatives and Energy Performance Contracts, energy reduction reporting, deregulated energy procurement, energy planning, and utility bill analysis.

The database also serves a critical function in the State's compliance with HB662: Department of General Services – Energy Consumptions Goals and Energy Performance Contracts that focuses on energy efficiency in State buildings. It is used to confirm data with agencies, create baselines of usage, track progress towards the goals, and develop reports. The bill mandates 10% reduction in energy usage in State buildings by 2029 (vs a FY2018 baseline).

More information on the State Energy Database can be found here:

<https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/Energy/Database/index.aspx>

DGS's Office of Energy and Sustainability periodically runs a "Hit the Switch" challenge that encourages building residents to turn off lights in unoccupied spaces. Lighting sensors were set up in select locations to track the percent of time lights were on or off. DGS has run three of these challenges between 2019 and 2020.

**Renewable Energy**

*DGS currently has Solar PV installations at four agency buildings, with total capacity of 432 kW and generating approximately 520,000 kWh per year.*

*DGS also works with State agencies in the development and implementation of additional renewable projects throughout the State.*

*For more information, <https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/Energy/Renewable.aspx>*

## **Transportation**

**Employee Commute**

*State employees receive free transportation on MTA routes including buses and light rail. Many DGS facilities including State Center Complex where DGS is headquartered are located near public transportation. It is the policy of the State to locate State office or laboratory space within a half mile radius of a transit station at a transit-oriented development whenever appropriate and feasible without diminishing the accessibility of services to the citizens of the State.*

**Fleet Vehicles**

*DGS is working to expand electric vehicle infrastructure in the State and thereby is able to support and encourage the State's growing electric vehicle fleet. DGS FY 2014 Vehicle Purchase Standards include specifications for alternative fuel vehicles such as hybrid, plug-in-hybrid, flex fuel (E85 ethanol), electric, low speed fully electric and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) vehicles. DGS provides alternative fuel to 8 facilities across the state. <https://dgs.maryland.gov/Pages/FuelManagement/Index.aspx>*

## **Green Building**

**LEED**

*DGS is the supporting agency for the Maryland Green Building Council. The Council makes recommendations about implementing the state's High Performance Building Program. This program requires all new or significantly renovated, fully-funded or owned State buildings over 7,500 square feet to achieve at least a LEED Silver certification. <http://www.dgs.maryland.gov/Energy/GreenBuilding/index.html>*

## Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities



*Maryland is a US Department of Energy Better Buildings Partner; DGS leads Maryland's efforts in this initiative. In the 2015 Better Buildings Summit, Maryland was showcased as the first state to reach all three of the following energy milestones: sharing detailed energy data for 9 million square feet of state building properties; producing an "Implementation Model" that discusses how DGS used the 16-Agency Energy Competition to motivate state agencies to achieve reductions; and meeting and exceeding the energy reduction goal. The State of Maryland has improved its energy performance by 27% since 2008. More information on can be found here: <https://betterbuildingssolutioncenter.energy.gov/energy-data/State%20of%20Maryland>*

*The State of Maryland, with the support of DGS, achieved Silver Level Recognition in 2019 for environmentally responsible purchasing and end-of-life management of office electronics.*

*The Department of General Service and the Green Purchasing Committee are members of the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC). More information on SPLC can be found here: <https://www.sustainablepurchasing.org/#>*

*DGS and the Green Purchasing Committee received a "Green Purchasing Technical Assistance Funds" grant from the National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO) in 2019.*

*DGS was invited to present on Maryland's green purchasing program by both NASPO and SPLC in 2020.*

*A DGS-managed property, the Rockville District Court and Multi-Service Center, was awarded the 2021 Maryland Green Registry State Energy Award for significant energy savings achieved as part of Governor Hogan's Executive Order 01.01.2019.08, establishing energy use reduction goals at state-owned buildings.*

**Profile Updated June 2020**



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

*Learn more at [green.maryland.gov](https://green.maryland.gov)*

