

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.

# Elysian Energy, LLC



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Energy Efficiency Consulting
Member since April 2013

### **Management and Leadership**

## **Environmental Policy Statement**

We believe that a business's goals should consist of three "P"s: People, Planet and Profit. This is known as the triple bottom line. Ingrained in our work ethos is the belief that a sustainable future, both for our planet and our company, can be achieved only through an ongoing commitment to our community and our environment. If we tend carefully to the first two, we believe the third will take care of itself.

Elysian Energy has established sustainability policies addressing the following topics: Organizational Commitment, Waste Reduction & Recycling, Environmentally Responsible Purchasing, Pollution Prevention, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, Stormwater Management and Conservation Policies, and Transportation and Travel

### **Environmental Team**

Our "Green Team" consists of 11 team members who meet monthly to discuss our goals, brainstorm ideas for our newsletter, and review the progress of our green initiatives. The mission is "To actively improve our environmental consciousness and practices at Elysian Energy." The Green Team works in conjunction with the Commercial Team to figure out ways to improve our office ranging from increasing insulation, educating employees on what can be recycled, advocating for the Guaranteed Ride Home, and other programs.

In 2014, our Green Team created a Green Week Scavenger Hunt. Teams completed in tasks such as "Plant a native plant," "Upcycle something instead of throwing it away," "Track your team's carbon footprint," and "Walk, bike or take public transportation to work." Teams earned points for each of the 20 tasks and earned creativity points for extraordinary performance. The contest was fun and helped employees find new ways of conserving, reusing, and encouraging others to be environmentally responsible.

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

Elysian Energy provides energy audits and energy efficiency consulting. We work with the utility programs in Maryland and the government in DC to help homeowners and businesses save money and reduce their environmental impact

# **☑** Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

We purchase materials that are from recyclable content, locally-sourced, low-VOC, and/or green certified (e.g. Green Seal paper and office supplies, EPEAT computers, ENERGY STAR fridge) whenever possible.

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

We provide four paid volunteer days annually for each employee at one of the following organizations: Habitat for Humanity, Friends of Sligo Creek, Blue Water Baltimore, and Clagget Farm. Past projects have included working on the Passive House in DC, invasive species removal at Sligo Creek, and helping pick organic produce for distribution to food banks at Clagget Farm.

#### Waste

### **✓** Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

Elysian Energy has implemented different strategies to continue to reduce the paper waste in the office. We have set our printers to print double-sided and provide scrap paper for single-sided documents. We also have several iPads and use them in the field with customers instead of paper forms.

# **✓** Recycling

We have purchased extra recycling bins for the office and posted signage by all the trash cans and recycling containers to explain what should be recycled and what should not. We recycle mixed and white office paper, corrugated cardboard and newspapers. Elysian generates 1.34 cubic feet of this solid waste per week and this waste is combined with the solid waste from five different companies sharing a recycling container. This shared recycling container is picked up 4 times weekly.

We recycle 1.73 cubic feet of commingled materials, aluminum cans, steel/tin cans, plastic bottles, glass bottles and jars weekly.

Our office composts food waste which has reduced the volume of trash we produce each week as tracked by our Green Team.

Elysian produces 13 gallons of solid waste that cannot be recycled by the rules of Montgomery County. This waste is picked up weekly.

#### **Energy**

# **☑** Energy Efficiency

Elysian Energy has increased the insulation in our office attic to R40, air sealed to reduce air infiltration, duct-sealed with Aeroseal, replaced incandescent light bulbs with CFLs, installed SmartPower Strips at computer work stations, enabled energy-saving features for our computers, and set programmable thermostats. We purchase ENERGY STAR and EPEAT electronics, use daylight when possible, and are about to retrofit our T12 light fixtures to LED fixtures.

### **Transportation**

# **Employee Commute**

Our Green Team maintains our Traffic Mitigation Plan and we recently increased benefits for employees who use public transportation. More than half of our employees are registered in the Guaranteed Ride Home and the Regional Ride-Sharing program. We offer up to \$240 monthly in SmarTrip benefits for employees to encourage taking public transit over driving. We have shower facilities in our office and are in the process of obtaining a bike rack to encourage commuting by bicycle.

# <u>Water</u>

### **✓** Water Conservation

Before moving into our current office, Elysian Energy retrofitted the toilets from 2.6 gpf models to 1.28 WaterSense Certified models, changed our faucet

aerotors from 2.2 gpm to 1 in the bathrooms and 1.5 in the kitchen. Our showerheads are 1.75 gpm (30% lower than the federal regulations). Savings from the sinks and showers alone should be around \$120 per year and for the toilets should be 11,666.25 gallons annually based on Alliance for Water Efficiency calculations.

### Other

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Montgomery County Certified Green Business ENERGY STAR Partner U.S. Green Building Council Member RESNET Rater Member BPI Accredited Contractor







