



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 & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative/Maola



Corporate Headquarters: 13921 Park Center Rd #200 Herndon, VA 20171
Laurel Facility – Dairy Ingredient Plant: 8321 Leishear Rd. Laurel, MD 20723
Landover Facility – Consumer Products Plant: 1805 S Club Dr. Landover, MD 20785
Manufacturing, Dairy
Member since May 2024

Management and Leadership



Environmental Policy Statement

Mission Statement:

Our cooperative's mission is to be a sustainable cooperative that maximizes value for our farmer-owners, employees, and customers.

Our cooperative supports socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sound dairy farm practices. We were the first dairy cooperative in the country to work with the entire dairy supply chain — the dairy farmer, the cooperative, the community environmental organizations, and the retailers — to address sustainability initiatives. It was an award-winning endeavor that continues to be honored today. Our practices aim to promote the current and future health and well-being of our cows, our consumers, our communities, our employees, our farmers, and our planet.



Environmental Team

Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association has a dedicated Animal Care & Sustainability Team comprised of:

- *Executive Vice President, Sustainability & External Relations*
- *Director of Animal Care & Sustainability*
- *Sustainability Programs Manager*
- *Sustainability Programs Administrator*

- *Five Sustainability Specialists*

Meeting Frequency: The Animal Care & Sustainability team meets weekly to discuss progress on current conservation projects and to coordinate resources for upcoming opportunities.

Team Function: The Animal Care & Sustainability Team is pivotal to the cooperative's mission. Our Sustainability Specialists foster strong connections with every cooperative member, actively seeking opportunities to enhance value and optimize their operations. We guide members in crafting implementation plans for agricultural best management practices (BMPs), facilitate access to funding opportunities, and provide support throughout the funding application process.

Video: [Agricultural BMPs on our member-owned farms - Doody Farm in Union Bridge, MD](#)



Annual Environmental Goals

- *MDVA will reduce electricity consumption in Scope 2 emissions by 44% by 2023 in the Laurel, MD facility.*
- *MDVA will have 100% non-organic waste diverted from landfill, incineration and environment by 2023 in the Landover, MD facility.*



Environmental Restoration and Community Environmental Projects

As a result of our two partnerships below, we have helped our member-owned farms implement riparian forest buffers to protect local water quality by planting nearly 15,000 native trees on over 70 acres of farmland.

Giant Clean Water Partnership

Together, with our partners at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and Giant Food, MDVA supports our dairy farmers throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed to improve land and water quality through the Giant Clean Water Partnership (GCWP). The improvements don't stop at our natural resources. The conservation practices funded through this partnership improve animal health, leading to higher quality dairy goodness, and ensures farm sustainability for generations to come. The GCWP further solidifies our commitment to the region and positions our brand, Maola, as the leading sustainable milk brand for families in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Turkey Hill Clean Water Partnership

The Turkey Hill Clean Water Partnership (THCWP) kicked off in 2018 after a year of planning and coordination between the three partners: Maryland & Virginia, Turkey Hill Dairy and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. The Partnership assists members in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed with sustainability goals and conservation plans. The

support of our members comes from grant funding available to partnerships like the THCWP and allows them to implement best management practices and accompanying physical constructions or equipment. Some of the projects already completed within the THCWP framework include modern housing for calves and heifers, waste management constructions to keep manure from waterways and implementation of land management plans.

Video: [Announcing the Turkey Hill Clean Water Partnership](#)

Aspirational or Long-Term Environmental Goals

U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment

As an integral participant in the U.S. Dairy Stewardship Commitment, the Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association is dedicated to achieving three crucial objectives by 2050: attaining greenhouse gas neutrality, optimizing water use with a focus on recycling, and enhancing water quality through the optimized utilization of manure and nutrients.

U.S. Dairy Net-Zero Initiative

As an active participant in the Net Zero Initiative—an industry-wide endeavor aimed at diminishing on-farm environmental impacts—the Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association is committed to collaborating with industry partners. Our dedication involves leveraging technology, providing resources, and imparting expert knowledge to empower our membership in achieving sustainable practices and reducing environmental footprints on the farm.

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

Our Laurel facility diverts 100% (3.6 million gallons) of wastewater sludge from landfills. Most of the diverted sludge is used in land fertilizer applications, with a small percentage going to a digester that produces manufactured natural gas and fertilizer.

Recycling

From October 2022 to October 2023, our Landover facility recycled a total of 647,888 pounds (293.9 metric tons) of plastic. Additionally, the fiber recycling (including cardboard and wood) during the same period amounted to 73,964 pounds (33.55 metric tons). As a result of these recycling efforts, the Landover facility successfully avoided the emission of 415.8 metric tons of CO2 equivalents.

Composting

From October 2022 to October 2023 our Landover, MD facility effectively diverted 272.67 metric tons of non-food waste from landfills through composting, preventing the emission of 369.1 metric tons of CO2 equivalents.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

In 2023, the LED lighting retrofit project at our Laurel facility successfully lowered the annual electricity usage from 767,974 kWh to 337,068 kWh. This translates to a 44% reduction in electricity consumption for the Laurel facility.

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

Our Laurel, MD facility thickens dissolved air flotation (DAF) sludge by 50%, which has allowed us to decrease the hauling volume by 1.8 million gallons per year. This eliminates 300 truck hauls per year at 80 miles each.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and other Activities

2022 Sustainability Award for Outstanding Community Impact, Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy

Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association (MDVA) has earned the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy's 2022 Sustainability Award for Outstanding Community Impact. The award recognizes dairy community efforts that improve lives and communities through positive impacts on health and wellness, hunger relief, workforce development, community volunteering and investment, and/or environmental stewardship. Successful nominations demonstrate instances where farms, cooperatives, processors, or other dairy community stakeholders develop practical and effective solutions to shared challenges and goals of the communities in which they live and work.

Video: [Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Awarded 2022 Dairy Sustainability Award for Community Impact](#)

2020 Outstanding Supply Chain Collaboration Award, Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy

In 2020, the Turkey Hill Clean Water Partnership earned the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy's Outstanding Supply Chain Collaboration Award at the 2020 edition of the Center's Sustainability Awards. The award recognizes innovative projects and collaborative partnerships that have outstanding economic, environmental, and social benefits, and that serve as a replicable model to inform and inspire others in advancing

dairy sustainability leadership. The awarding of this honor is a testament to Maryland & Virginia's commitment to the sustainability initiatives that the dairy industry has undertaken.



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

