

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.

Phillips Wharf Environmental Center



672 W Glenwood Ave Easton, MD 21601 410-886-9200 phillipswharf.org Non-profit *Member since October 2024*

Management and Leadership

Ecological Restoration and Community Environmental Projects

We participate in MWEE (Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience) through NOAA. We enter the classroom and work in tandem with the teachers to create an awareness of their local Chesapeake Bay watershed. At the end of the programming, which occurs over the course of a month, each classroom decides upon an Action Project which will make a sustainable and lasting impact on the future health of the bay.

In the Spring, we host a public one-day trash clean-up. We measure how much trash is picked up in public spaces and returned to us for disposal.

Measurable results: (1 bag = 15 pounds of trash)

2024: 18 bags (270 pounds of trash) {rained; smaller turn-out}

2023: 27 bags (405 pounds of trash)

2022: (COVID–Phillips Wharf relocated from Tilghman to Easton)

Aspirational or Long-Term Environmental Goals

We hope to one day integrate an industrial multi-basin sink with pedal-operation. With the amount of animal care that we do, care must be taken to avoid crosscontamination of water. Currently, to uphold this health standard, our faucets must run until they can be shut off with a disposable brown paper to protect clean hands and moving on to the next tank. A pedal operated sink would drastically decrease our use of brown paper, as well as grant precise control over the amount of water used. The need to wash hands would decrease as well, as with a pedal operation there would be no need to touch the faucet (and thus wash again) even when working with the same tank.

<u>Waste</u>

Recycling

We recycle cardboard, paper and plastic.

Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

To reduce the use of plastic and the need for a chemical solvent to dechlorinate the water for our animals, we take the time to manually fill measured buckets for all of our many tanks. By letting it sit for 24 hours, the chlorine evaporates naturally.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Our office space has West-facing windows, which receive a large amount of afternoon sunlight, allowing us to work without artificial overhead lighting. It also allows for passive solar heating, thereby reducing heating cost in cooler weather. Our animal room is also lit via natural light, with the overhead artificial lights mainly being used to announce to our animals that it is feeding time.

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

Employees ride in the <u>Fishmobile</u>, our mobile aquarium, to outreach programs when logical, saving gas mileage via ridesharing.

Water

Water Conservation

The Fishmobile is in need of water changes between programs. To reduce use of salt and extra water to fill our nine 16 gallon and four 20-gallon tanks aboard, we pump water directly from the Chesapeake Bay into the bus.

Our center has some low-flow toilets as well as a tankless toilet in use, which use about 1.28 gallons of water per flush compared to a traditional toilet.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

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Our building is considered Adaptive Reuse, as our facility used to be the city's Public Works building. The building and the property on which we run our programs has

been converted into Easton Point Park, a natural public park. It is currently in the process of getting a bike path to run beside the Tred Avon River and connect to other public parks to allow bikeable transport between towns.





practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money. Learn more at green.maryland.gov