



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.

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Architecture/Planning/Interior Design

Member since July 2010

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

RCG is committed to the virtues of environmental sustainability and has experienced firsthand the success of green design and green practices. We find it responsible, ethical and fulfilling to encourage our employees and clients to practice sustainability, comply with all government environmental regulations, reduce consumption and waste as much as possible and continually evolve and improve our green strategies in an effort to preserve the environment for future generations.

Environmental Team

RCG's environmental team consists of several conservation leaders in the office that spearhead the research, planning, and execution of all sustainable decisions and projects facilitated within the office and in the community as well.

The Environmental Team ensures recycling of all qualified waste, collects and empties recycle on a weekly basis, provides sustainable alternatives in the office and meets regularly to collaborate new ideas for employing more sustainable practices.

It is also a goal of the Environmental Team to provide and share eco-friendly ideas that members are practicing in their homes as well. These collaborations are meant to provide additional ideas that employees can use not only in the office but in their homes also to ensure that sustainability does not end with the work day.

Annual Environmental Goals

We continually assess our environmental impact, implement changes and set goals in our office to improve our ecological commitment. A few of these goals include:

- *Being certain that printing is done only when absolutely necessary and encouraging double sided printing by our staff*
- *Strongly encouraging our employees to bring reusable water bottles from home to reduce unnecessary water bottle waste*
- *Practicing regional buying to provide business to local enterprises and further reduce travel and waste*
- *Providing permanent kitchenware in addition to glassware to eliminate disposable waste*
- *Ensuring all supplies are purchased through a single source to avoid over buying*
- *Encouraging all employees within reasonable distance of the office to bike, walk or take public transportation*

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

At RCG, we are committed to providing and implementing sustainable design whenever possible in our projects. Environmentally sensitive design is a standard part of our everyday process. The interaction of the site, climate, building massing, building construction, mechanical systems, and occupant use patterns are all considered at the onset of the design process.

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

Through providing reusable drink ware and encouraging employees to refrain drinking from disposable water bottles, RCG has eliminated using over 2,000 plastic/styrofoam cups and water bottles a year. This also saved RCG an annual amount of \$270 on disposable kitchenware. RCG estimates that with the addition of permanent kitchenware we will eliminate the use of over 1,300 disposable plates and bowls which will save close to \$300 annually.

A point is made to print conservatively and only when necessary. We exchange information digitally as much as possible in order to reduce the amount of paper used. Double sided printing and copying is utilized often and is strongly encouraged. Boxes are recycled for storage or for mailing purposes.

Recycling

RCG recycles paper, cardboard, plastic and aluminum. The average amount of recycled waste collected weekly totals one 50-gallon recycle bin. Each employee has access to a personal recycling receptacle at their desk as well as in various public locations throughout the office. 93-97% of all paper is recycled.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

The office dishwasher is an Energy Star rated appliance. The single drawer dishwasher uses only an annual 174 kWh and has a yearly operating cost of \$19 as opposed to the estimated annual 339 kWh usage and \$37 operating cost for the Kenmore double drawer dishwasher.

Transportation

Employee Commute

Our employees commit to our green values through their eco-conscious transportation decisions as well. Employees who live within reasonable distance of the office walk, bike or take public transportation. Biking to work is encouraged through onsite provisions of showers and bike racks.

Water

Water Conservation

The Energy Star rated Kenmore single drawer dishwasher uses only 2.7 gallons of water per cycle compared to a non-Energy Star rated dishwasher uses around 5 gallons of water per cycle.

Other

One third of our staff is registered LEED designers and we regularly participate in US Green Building Council activities and conferences.

RCG has received LEED certification for two recently completed projects:

- *Villanova University College of Nursing – Gold*
- *Canusa Headquarters Building – Basic*

We currently have several projects under construction seeking LEED certification:

- *Texas State University RRHEC School of Nursing – Silver*
- *University of Maryland School of Pharmacy – Gold*
- *Salisbury University School of Business – Gold*
- *Longwood University Stevens Hall Renovation – Silver*

Though LEED certified design was not a requirement of the project, two of our recent projects have been recognized by The State of Maryland for contribution to green design and smart growth principals:

- *University of Maryland Nathan Patz Law Center*
- *Delaplaine Center for the Visual Arts*



Maryland

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

