



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.

Shiple's Choice Elementary School



310 Governor Stone Parkway

Millersville, MD 21108

410-222-3851

<http://www.shipleyspta.wildapricot.org/Environmental>

Elementary School

Member since July 2009

Management and Leadership



Environmental Team

The school's Environmental Committee, which is comprised of teachers and parents, meets monthly to discuss classroom and school-wide environmental projects and Maryland Green School commitments. The Committee also publishes monthly environmental tips through the school newsletter.



Environmentally Preferable Procurement

The PTA purchased benches made of recycled plastic and an Eagle Scout installed additional recycled plastic benches for outdoor classroom.



Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

The school has installed a bog, rain garden, butterfly garden, rainbarrels, and numerous bluebird boxes on school grounds. Students also contributed to the planting of an additional bog created on county land across the road from our school. Two interpretive signs describing the construction and function of the school's bog and the plants found in it were installed and can be viewed on our school website, <http://www.shipleyspta.wildapricot.org/Environmental>. Students provide regular maintenance of the bog and rain garden by mulching, removing invasive species and planting new native plants. Students have also raised and released butterflies, perch, terrapins, and planted bay grasses.

Waste

Solid Waste/Material Use Reduction and Reuse

The school communicates electronically to reduce paper waste and encourages two-sided copying and printing. Waste-Free Wednesdays occur throughout the year to encourage students pack low or zero-waste lunches. Cafeteria recycling program focuses on students separating trash from recyclable materials and compost.

Recycling

Our school recycles paper, plastic, glass, aluminum, Styrofoam lunch trays, glue sticks, glue bottles, cell phones, and printer cartridges.

Composting

Our school collects food waste for composting primarily during 3rd grade lunch periods. We work with school custodians to educate students on what can be recycled and what can be composted.

Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

Anne Arundel County Public Schools have an Integrated Pest Management plan that uses chemicals as a last resort.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Anne Arundel County Public Schools have an energy management system which remotely controls the boilers, hot water heater, exhaust fans and interior and exterior lighting. After 4:00 pm each school day or noon during the summer months, the temperature is adjusted for maximum energy savings. The school calls the county command center if there are any changes to the schedule which would require lights or HVAC to be on after these hours. The school has double-paned windows and blinds are closed during the summer. Computer equipment is turned off at the end of each day. Energy efficient T-8 bulbs are used. The school follows that county's preventative maintenance schedule and cleans HVAC coils and filters monthly. Thermostats are calibrated annually. Classroom environmental stewards ensure lights are turned off and classroom doors are shut when students leave the classroom.

Transportation

Employee Commute

Students participated in a Clean Air Project and were asked to track the number of times they walk, bike, bus, carpool, scooter or skate to school, a friend's house, or an activity. The total pounds of air emissions were calculated by the fifth grade students and reported back to the school and community. Results showed that the third, fourth and fifth grade prevented 280 pounds of ozone-forming air pollutants (volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides) over a five day period by making an extra effort to avoid car travel.

Students are encouraged to walk or bike to school when possible to reduce carbon emissions. Walking school busses and bike trains established in 2014 onwards. We are participating in National Walk to School Day and National Bike to School days starting in 2014. Efforts to increase physical activity and also to reduce carbon emissions from carpooling are the main reasons for these campaigns. Students who can log their physical activity by biking, walking, or scooting to school for one month will be eligible for incentive rewards.

Water

Water Conservation

Classroom environmental stewards ensure water is turned off when not in use. There is also a work-order system that allows teachers and students to report water leaks. Drought-resistant native vegetation is used in school landscaping and mulch is placed around plants to retain moisture.

Stormwater Management and Site Design

The bog treats all stormwater runoff from the school roof and parking lot by removing nutrients and toxics before the water enters the Severn River. The bog, rainbarrels and rain garden have also eliminated hillside erosion

Other

- *Certified as a Maryland Green School in 2001, Recertified in 2004, 2008 and 2012.*
- *Named a Sustained Green School in 2012, one of 15 schools in the state that has been certified 4 times over 14 years.*

- *Participant in Chesapeake Connections, which provides environmental training and support for teachers*
- *Participant in World Water Monitoring Day*
- *Maryland PLANT Award – Silver Level 2006-2013*

Profile Updated October 2014



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

