



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.

Town of Emmitsburg



300A South Seton Avenue
Emmitsburg, MD 21727
301-600-6300
www.emmitsburgmd.gov
Local Government
Member since February 2015

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

On October 20, 2014 the Town of Emmitsburg passed Policy 2014-01 (Sustainable Procurement Policy) stating the town's intention to pursue environmental stewardship through materials, products or services purchased/used. The policy also acknowledges the Town's commitment to sustainability and reducing energy consumption. The policy can be viewed here: http://www.emmitsburgmd.gov/community_outreach/sustainable_community/own_of_emmitsburg_sustainable_procurement_policy.php

As stated in the Sustainable Procurement Policy (Policy 2014-01), "the Town of Emmitsburg recognizes its responsibility to minimize negative impacts on human health and the environment while supporting a diverse, equitable, and vibrant community and economy. The Town recognizes that the types of products and services the Town buys have inherent social, human health, environmental and economic impacts, and that the Town should make procurement decisions that embody the Town's commitment to sustainability."

Environmental Team

The Town has a "Green Team" certified through Sustainable Maryland. The team consists of five members including the Mayor, the Town Clerk, two passionate town residents, and a local business leader. The group meets monthly. The goal of the team is to leverage the skills, expertise, and life experience of team members to develop policies/plans, implement programs, and assist with educational opportunities that support the creation of a sustainable and

environmentally friendly community. The Green Team seeks to engage all community members and is currently promoting the team to add more members, thus making sustainability a community effort.

The Green Team has also created a 3-year action strategy with goals, guiding principles and actions which can be viewed here: <http://sm-site-persistent-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/fileadmin/cicbase/documents/2015/7/10/14365528301284.doc>

Annual Environmental Goals

On August 19, 2013 the Town of Emmitsburg passed Policy 2013-03 (Alternate Energy policy), which requires the Town to “reduce conventional centralized electricity generation serving local government buildings by meeting 20% of those buildings’ electricity demand with distributed, renewable energy generation by 2022.”

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

On October 20, 2014, the Mayor and Board of Commissioners adopted a Sustainable Procurement Policy (Policy 2014-01) committing the Town to consider environmental factors such as toxicity, waste generation, greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption, depletion of natural resources, and impact on biodiversity when purchasing materials, products, or services.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Policy 2013-02

In 2013 the Town passed the Electrical Energy Efficiency Policy, which declares the Town’s intent to reduce electricity consumption, partner with the Maryland Energy Administration, and enroll as a Maryland Smart Energy Community.

LED Lights

At the end of 2013, the Town replaced all its street lights with LED high energy efficient bulbs. This has reduced the Town’s kWh usage in the street light accounts by 40% and reduced the Town’s overall electrical use by 9.5%

Maryland Smart Energy Community

In 2014, in recognition of its efforts in energy reduction, Emmitsburg was named a Maryland Smart Energy Community by the Maryland Energy

Administration. As part of the program, the Town has to establish an energy consumption baseline and develop a plan with the goal of reducing energy consumption of town-owned buildings by 15% within five (5) years of the baseline year.

Renewable Energy

The Town of Emmitsburg has two solar fields. The first 1.109 megawatt field was completed in April 2014. The second 1.295 megawatt solar field was installed in August 2015. Both fields generate 250,000 kilowatts a month or 3 million kilowatts a year. All major Town accounts, as well as the new waste water treatment plant facility, are powered by 100% renewable energy. Since installation in 2015, Potomac Edison invoice costs have decreased by 50%. In addition, several energy bill line item charges no longer apply. Emmitsburg expects to produce over 94% of government electrical needs through renewable solar energy.

Transportation

Fleet Vehicles

Emmitsburg has a strict policy of high quality maintenance of its vehicle fleet. It also makes every effort to replace older less fuel efficient vehicles. The Town also attempts to maintain a two man-to-one truck effort in order to reduce vehicle use.

Water

Water Conservation

On April 11, 2017 the Town of Emmitsburg and Kershner Environmental Technologies installed an LG Sonic Algae and Biofilm Control system on Rainbow Lake. Rainbow Lake supplies drinking water for the Town of Emmitsburg. The new algae control system will help eliminate algae, which has been a significant problem for the Town. The algae clogs the filters/pumps in the water treatment plant and requires a substantial amount of water to clean the algae out of the system.

The new algae control system is powered by solar energy and will use low non-toxic frequencies to collapse gas vesicles in the algae cell before it can float to the surface and become a significant problem. The system will not harm animals, fish, birds, pets, or other aquatic plants. The Town estimates water savings of 642,250 gallons a month (50% of current average usage) and cost

savings totaling about \$19,385 a year from the reduction of chemicals. Chemicals are predicted to reduce by the following: chlorine (-10%), coagulant (-20%), soda ash (-20%), and green clean pro (no longer needed). In addition, there are numerous other savings such as a reduced reliance on the town's well system and electrical savings.

In recognition of the new system, the Town made the front page of the Frederick News Post on Saturday April 15, 2017.

Other

Improved Walkability

The Town of Emmitsburg has been installing sidewalks to connect all areas of the town, improve walkability and reduce reliance on vehicles. 8 different connections were constructed totaling 3,170 feet. The sidewalks allow residents to walk safely from one end of town to the other where businesses and restaurants are.

Frederick County Leadership in Sustainability Award

On May 20, 2015 the Town of Emmitsburg was presented with the Frederick County Leadership in Sustainability Award. The award recognizes Emmitsburg for its leadership in solar energy, lighting efficiency, pedestrian/bike accessibility, and sustainability comprehensive planning.

Profile Updated April 2017



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

