



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.

# Unity Landscape Design/Build Unity Church Hill Nursery

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Landscape Design/Build, Native Plant Nursery

Member since February 2016

## Management and Leadership

### **Environmental Policy Statement**

*Unity Landscape Design/Build's mission statement is "design and construction of ecologically sensitive and functional outdoor living spaces." The staff at Unity applies this same mission statement to everything at our facilities.*

### **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

*In addition to our garden design, planning, building and maintenance services, Unity Landscape also offers a variety of environmental services including invasive species management, wetland restoration, nitrogen removal septic systems, stormwater management and rain gardens, and shoreline erosion control and maintenance. In designing and constructing ecologically sensitive outdoor spaces, Unity Landscape has also become a leader in permeable pavers and has installed them in as many site applicable settings as possible.*

### **Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Unity Landscape Design/Build has worked with several non-profit organizations to implement volunteer planting for many living shoreline and restoration projects. Volunteers have included elementary school children, camp groups, local watershed volunteers and college students. On 8/29/16, Unity hosted and worked in conjunction with the University of Maryland Extension office to provide a free educational workshop open to the public to teach the*

*basics of a living shoreline and its benefits. The workshop consisted of a slideshow presentation, question and answer session and a site visit to a nearby living shoreline designed and constructed by Unity Landscape. Attendance was over 60 people from Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties.*

## **Waste**

### **Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

*Our kitchen is stocked with dishes available to all employees and its use is encouraged to minimize the use of disposable cups, plates, cutlery, etc.*

### **Recycling**

*Unity makes great strides to recycle and repurpose as many materials as possible. All recyclable items are collected once per week and taken to recycling facilities; ink cartridges are recycled, and construction materials are all stockpiled or re-used if applicable. Receiving several shipments on pallets, Unity repurposed these pallets into the construction of several pergolas to provide shaded areas for certain plants.*

### **Composting**

*An approximate 3000+ ton collection of stumps, large tree trunks, and branches stockpiled at our facility from various projects where downed trees were removed have been repurposed and implemented in the construction of hugel mounds on-site at our facility. In its basic form, mounds are constructed by piling logs, branches, plant waste, compost and additional soil directly on the ground or in a shallow swale. This technique saved many hours and fuel from of the use of large wood processing equipment to include tub grinders, chippers, conveyance systems as well as hauling of recycled materials to new locations. Hugel mounds or Hügelkultur is a composting process employing raised planting beds constructed on top of decaying wood debris and other compostable biomass plant materials. The process helps to improve soil fertility, water retention, and soil warming, thus benefiting plants grown on or near such mounds.*

## **Energy**

### **Energy Efficiency**

*Currently, Unity is working to retrofit all lighting on property with LED which will provide a 60% energy savings and protect the environment by recycling old toxic products. This measure is currently in the development stage.*

**Renewable Energy**

*Upon construction of our new office headquarters, Unity had a 4-Ton Closed Loop Geothermal Heat Pump System installed. The system includes (2) 200' length x 3' wide x 6' depth loops, and Climatemaster 14.1 EER and 3.3 COP or greater Heat Pump installed 5/1/2010.*

**Water**

**Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*Unity has installed several stormwater management and environment site design projects all over Kent, Queen Anne's, Cecil, and Talbot Counties. Our headquarters is no exception. Unity has installed several rain gardens on-site which both function to reduce stormwater runoff into the local watershed as well a demonstration to the public.*

**Other**

- On October 22nd, 2015 Unity was presented with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for Environmental Awareness.*



*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](http://www.green.maryland.gov/registry)*

