



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.

University of Maryland, Baltimore



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Higher Education
Member since September 2009

Management and Leadership

Environmental Team

UMB established the Office of Sustainability in August of 2021. We have 3 full time positions focused on many aspects of sustainability, including environmental justice, education and engagement, and greenhouse gas reporting and compliance.

Waste

Solid Waste/Material Use Reduction and Reuse

A statewide website, www.govdeals.com, is utilized to advertise furniture and equipment that is available for sale. This is managed through the UMB Surplus Property program.

UMB has achieved an overall solid waste disposal reduction of approximately 18%.

In 2022, UMB switched to a local vendor to resell and recycle electronic waste from campus. The vendor prioritizes reselling before recycling and is located within Maryland.

Recycling

The University of Maryland Baltimore has had an operational recycling program since 1997 and participates in the All State Agencies Recycle (All StAR) Program. Solid waste and recycling tonnages are reported to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) through this program.

We have three major waste streams on campus – mixed metals, plastic and glass; paper and cardboard; and trash.

We are currently researching a self-service waste model for campus buildings, where individuals take trash and recycling to shared co-located bins, and individual office trash cans are eliminated. Under this model, centralized waste stations will be standardized, and waste signage will be updated to be as clear as possible.

Composting

UMB also began composting research animal bedding late in 2014, with over 100 tons annually being composted in 2015 and 2016. This process was put on hold around 2019 due to vendor changes, and we are currently looking to restart the effort in 2022.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

UMB monitors energy consumption in BTU/sf for every building on campus. At any given time, we have approximately 5-8 energy reduction effort projects active on campus.

UMB formed an Energy Reduction Team in 2020 to maximize energy savings with building setbacks through building automation systems.

In January 2022, we started replacing all fluorescent light bulbs on campus, and this project is 12% complete. Once completed, this project is estimated to save 5% of our total electricity consumption.

Transportation

Employee Commute

The Parking and Transportation Services program includes access to free MTA passes, a carpool program, pre-taxed monthly parking permits, shuttle services, secured bicycle storage, electric charging stations, and bike air pumps.

UMB has 21 EV charging stations on campus. An evaluation is currently being conducted for more EV charging stations within garages and campus lots that can be available to UMB and the general public.

Green Building

LEED Certification

All new construction is built to the LEED Silver standard, as a minimum, which requires a number of energy efficiency & other sustainability features. The School of Pharmacy Addition received LEED Gold certification under the New Construction rating system in 2011. The Bressler Research Building received LEED Silver status for its renovations of the 7th and 8th floors of the building. The Health Sciences and Research Facility III received LEED Gold status in 2018, and the new Design & Construction office suite achieved LEED Gold certification in 2019.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

Climate Action Plan

In early 2022, the Office of Sustainability released a strategic plan that includes greenhouse gas reduction goals in support of the Second Nature Climate Commitment. <https://www.umb.edu/sustainability/strategic-plan/>

Resilience

The Office of Sustainability has four working groups, one of which focuses on Resilience. The group is working to evaluate the UMB campus for current resiliency efforts and identify gaps, with the end goal of drafting a comprehensive resilience plan.

Gray to Green with Native Plants

UMB's Operations & Maintenance (O&M) group has steadily worked over the last five years to convert unneeded paved areas to lawn or landscaped areas. Over a half acre of UMB's intensively urban campus has been transitioned to pervious green space, becoming a campus amenity in the process. More recently, campus landscaping has begun to shift from seasonal annuals to Maryland native perennials, reducing maintenance costs and providing habitat for birds, butterflies & pollinators.

Profile Updated April 2022



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

