



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.

Veteran Compost (Garrity Renewables LLC)



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Commercial Composting

Member since September 2010

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

Veteran Compost is committed to minimizing its impact on the environment. Even though we are a company built around providing green products and services, we are not exempt from looking at our own impact. The way in which we undertake our operations and growth should be both environmentally and financially sound. We strive to improve our environmental performance over time and to initiate additional projects and activities that will further reduce our impacts on the environment.

Our commitment to the environment extends to our customers, our staff, and the community in which we operate. We are committed to:

- *Comply with all applicable environmental regulations*
- *Prevent pollution*
- *Train all of our staff on our environmental program and empower them to contribute and participate*
- *Communicate our environmental commitment and efforts to our customers, staff, and our community*
- *Continuously improve over time by striving to measure our environmental impacts and by setting goals to reduce these impacts each year*
- *Try to purchase environmentally friendly products whenever possible*
- *Package our products in reusable, recyclable, or compostable materials*
- *Use renewable energy and fuels whenever possible*
- *Doing the right thing for our customers, staff, and community*
- *Setting an example for other businesses and individuals to follow*

Annual Environmental Goals

For 2019:

- a. Increase ethnic food production at our Aberdeen, MD farm to help meet demand of local immigrant populations*
- b. Review collection routes to reduce mileage and fuel consumption*
- c. New site in Lothian, MD will have 100% of site electricity generated on-site by solar panels*
- d. Install rainwater catchment systems at all sites to reduce stormwater*
- e. Install birdhouses and bathhouses to increase local populations*

Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

All of our products are packaged with materials that can either be reused, recycled, or composted. All new products introduced are required to meet this goal. Here are our current products and their packaging:

- Compost Tea Bags – Used Burlap Coffee Sacks*
- Bagged Products – Poly Sandbags (reusable or recyclable)*

All of our compost is produced from 100% waste material (food scraps and wood waste). This is tons of material that was destined for the landfill or incineration and instead is converted into organic soil products.

We collect hundreds of plastic drums from local manufacturing plants and re-sell them to the public. Local residents and businesses use them for rain barrels, floating docks, or whatever else they can imagine. Instead of heading to the landfill, these barrels are finding new homes.

Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

We offer a 20% discount to all non-profits. This helps us lower the cost of materials for dozens of community and environmental projects throughout Maryland.

We have worked to remove invasive plants from our properties and promote the growth of native plants like milkweed.

We host a local beekeeper's hives at our site in Aberdeen, MD to help promote the growth of the local bee population.

Waste

Recycling

We recycle 50% of our waste. This is about 200 lbs a week or 10,000 pounds a year.

Composting

We collect food waste and coffee grounds at our offices and homes for composting.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

We have replaced the light bulbs in our facilities with Compact Fluorescent Bulbs and use a programmable thermostat. According to BGE, our 24/7 commercial composting operation uses less electricity than even our most energy efficient neighbors (single family homes).

Renewable Energy

We purchase 100% wind energy for all of our electrical needs in Aberdeen, MD. Our new site in Lothian, MD will be off-grid and 100% of power needs will be met by on-site solar panels.

Stormwater Management and Site Design

We have had our site in Aberdeen, MD certified as "Bay Wise" by the University of Maryland Extension. Our site was used as a model site for the new Maryland Composting Regulations.

Profile Updated September 2018



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

