

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.

# **Watershed Legal Counsel**



1011 Bay Ridge Ave. #145 Annapolis, MD 21403 410-897-7843 www.watershedlc.com Legal Services Member since December 2023

### **Management and Leadership**

# **Environmental Policy Statement**

Watershed Legal Counsel is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We will 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 clients, our staff, and the community in which we operate. We are committed to:

- Comply with all applicable environmental regulations;
- Prevent pollution whenever possible;
- 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; and
- Continually improve our environmental performance by setting annual goals to reduce our environmental impacts and measuring our results.

### Annual Environmental Goals

1. **Digital Transition:** Ensure that 90% of client documentation and internal paperwork are digitized. Track the number of documents transitioned to digital formats.

2. **Energy-Efficient Equipment:** Install energy-efficient office equipment and LED lighting. Measure the percentage of office equipment updated to more energy-efficient alternatives.

3. **Sustainable Procurement:** Ensure that 70% of office supplies purchased come from environmentally responsible vendors. Track the percentage of supplies sourced from these vendors.

4. *Client-Education:* Publish at least 2 newsletter articles or blog posts specifically addressing sustainable business practices.

5. **Community Involvement:** Establish partnerships with at least one local environmental organization or initiative. Measure the involvement through partnerships established or events sponsored personally.

# **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

Watershed Legal Counsel is an environmental and natural resources law firm serving people, for-profit businesses, nonprofits, and local governments throughout Maryland. We are a mission-driven organization assisting clients with permitting and compliance needs; analysis of environmental risks associated with projects and transactions; regulatory policy development and advocacy; and resolution of environmental and natural resource conflicts through litigation or alternative dispute resolution.

**Environmentally Preferable Purchasing** 

The firm purchases and uses only Energy Star certified computers and printers.

# **Environmental Restoration and Community Environmental Projects**

Jennifer Wazenski, Watershed Legal Counsel's Principal Attorney, serves on the Forest Management Committee of the Bay Ridge Civic Association, which owns over 100 acres under conservation easement held by the Maryland Environmental Trust and the Scenic Rivers Land Trust (SLRT). She is a former board member of the Bay Land Trust, which originally preserved these forested lands in the late 1990s.

#### **Waste**

# Recycling

All clean office paper refuse is recycled, if necessary for confidentiality, after shredding.

## Composting

All food waste and yard waste is composted.

## Energy



The office uses a geothermal heating and cooling system.

# Renewable Energy

*Electricity is supplemented with solar panels that generate approximately 10,000 kWh annually.* 

## **Transportation**

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# **Employee Commute/Customer Travel**

The practice is home based, so no commuting is required by the firm's single member.

# **Efficient Business Travel**

Video meetings and phone calls are encouraged to reduce business travel whenever that can be accomplished without reducing the value of client services.

#### Efficient Fleet Vehicles

The firm vehicle is a plug-in electric hybrid sedan (Chevrolet Volt).



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

