

The Maryland Green Registry — Organizations Working Toward a Sustainable Maryland

While much progress to protect public health and the environment is accomplished through compliance with environmental laws, the Department also assists Marylanders — organizations and individuals — to voluntarily go ‘green.’

While green has usually been good for the economic bottom line, it’s as important as ever in these challenging times to learn better ways to conserve, be efficient, and be innovative. Many Maryland organizations already enjoy the benefits of operating their facilities in ways that minimize environmental impacts.

The Maryland Green Registry gives a voice to these organizations through a forum to share accomplishments. The Registry is a self-certification program offering tips and resources to help organizations set and meet their own goals on the path to sustainability. Governor Martin O’Malley recently participated in a kick-off event for the Registry with over 100 Coca Cola employees and representatives from forty of the

program’s first member organizations at the Coca Cola Baltimore Production facility — Coca Cola was rated #1 in Newsweek’s 2009 Green Rankings for the Food and Beverage industry. Already, the Maryland Green Registry is quickly being populated with stories of organizations that have taken steps to reduce their environmental footprint and costs.



Governor O’Malley tours Coca Cola’s Baltimore Production facility and is joined by other Green Registry members and Coca Cola employees to kick off this new program.

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Maryland Green Registry Members range from the State's largest employers to one-person organizations. Members include complex manufacturing facilities with professional environmental staff, like Lockheed Martin Corporation in Middle River, to smaller businesses like British American Auto Care in Columbia, where protecting the environment is part of every employee's job. There are members like ADP, a business services company with offices in Owings Mills that has implemented Green IT initiatives saving them millions of dollars annually in energy costs, and Cosmetic Dental FX, a dental office in Pasadena that, in addition to virtually eliminating its solid and hazardous waste streams, is saving more than \$500 per year on a new energy efficient elevator.

Maryland's colleges and universities were among the first to join the Registry. They have generously shared information from their environmental teams where students, faculty, and facility managers are combining forces to address everything from the overall carbon footprint to serving locally grown organic food in campus dining services.

Membership is Inclusive, Flexible, and Free

We encourage businesses, churches, schools, government agencies, and other organizations to visit the Maryland Green Registry website at www.green.maryland.gov, and complete a best practices profile. Applicants must share information on at least five environmental best practices they have put in place, along with at least one measurable environmental result. The program is free, and it is flexible because organizations choose the measures that work for their facility. Maryland Green Registry member profiles are posted online to demonstrate environmental commitment and inspire others to take similar steps. Look for the Maryland Green Registry logo at participating organizations.



www.mde.state.md.us 800.633.6101



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Free Assistance from MDE

MDE's Pollution Prevention and Sustainability program is also available to help businesses set and meet environmental goals. MDE works in partnership with the Maryland Technology Extension Service to provide free on-site technical assistance, as well as a six-month Environmental Management System implementation program based on the global ISO 14001 standard, to help organizations strengthen management of both regulated and unregulated environmental impacts. A number of Maryland Green Registry members have taken advantage of these services and have posted results on the Green Registry website.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shari T. Wilson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Shari T. Wilson, Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment

MDE can also assist organizations in completing their online profile by suggesting additional actions and assisting to define measures and calculate the environmental benefits of the actions they've taken. Click here to get started.

<http://www.mde.maryland.gov/MarylandGreen/joinhere.html>

We are excited by the enthusiasm and tangible environmental results in the profiles of the first 70 members. We look forward to seeing Green Registry window decals pop up across the State as more organizations come forward with demonstrations of commitment to environmental quality and performance.