



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.

KLT Group, LLC.



NEPA | Planning | Sustainability

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Environmental Services

Member since August 2023

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

KLT Group recognizes the need to balance the built and green environments for present and future generations. Within our own company, we are dedicated to upholding high standards of environmental stewardship. We strive to continually improve our environmental performance and serve as a model within our professional community. This Environmental Policy Statement outlines our guiding principles and commitment to:

Compliance with Environmental Regulation: We are committed to complying with all relevant environmental laws, regulations, and other federal and state requirements. We will monitor and review our operations and approach our clients and their associated projects and programs with the same diligence.

Low Environmental Impact: We will assess the environmental impact of our processes, products, and services and strive to minimize waste generation and emissions. We will promote the efficient use of resources, including energy, water, and raw materials. Through innovation and best practices, we will strive to reduce our consumption of non-renewable resources and optimize resource efficiency throughout our operations.

Sustainable Products and Services: We will integrate sustainability considerations into the design, development, and delivery of our products and services. We will seek to provide environmentally friendly alternatives, promote recycling and reuse, and educate our clients on sustainable practices.

Climate Change Mitigation: We acknowledge the reality of climate change and its potential impacts. We will proactively reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with our business activities, including energy consumption, transportation, and waste management.

Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection: We recognize the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. We will support conservation initiatives and promote environmental awareness among our stakeholders through our media platforms.

Continuous Improvement of Environmental Performance through Annual Evaluations: We will foster a culture of environmental responsibility and encourage innovation to drive sustainable practices. We will maintain transparency by regularly communicating our environmental performance and progress towards our goals.

Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration: We will actively and equitably engage and collaborate with our stakeholders, including employees, clients, local communities, and regulatory authorities. We will seek their input, listen to their concerns, and incorporate their perspectives into the decision-making processes on the projects and programs of the clients we serve.

Leadership and Accountability: We will allocate the necessary resources, establish clear roles and responsibilities, and provide leadership to ensure the effective implementation of this Environmental Policy. We will hold ourselves accountable for our environmental performance and regularly review and update our policy to reflect new challenges and opportunities. We will appoint a Sustainability Officer to track our environmental performance on an annual basis.

Community First: We will continually identify and follow through on opportunities to support the communities we live, visit, and work in. We acknowledge and appreciate the need to support our communities through outreach in order to understand the socio-environmental context within which the built environment exists.



Environmental Restoration and Community Environmental Projects

As an environmental consultancy firm, KLT Group has supported many environmental restoration projects and community environmental projects in a professional capacity. Examples include:

- Managing grants that support community hazard mitigation, disaster resilience, and climate adaption projects throughout the state of Maryland,

- *Participating in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) community resiliency planning efforts, and*
- *Contributing to the Anacostia River Wetland Restoration project.*

KLT Group staff also regularly engage in environmental stewardship as individuals outside of work. In their free time, members of the team lend their time to environmental career exploration outreach activities, community gardening efforts, and local clean-up events.

Joining the Maryland Green Registry presents an opportunity to formalize our commitment to our local community and environment. As Registry members, KLT Group pledges to participate in bi-annual corporate volunteer days in support of community environmental projects. This commitment aligns with the “Community First” guiding principle as outlined in our Environmental Policy Statement.

Transportation

Employee Commute/Customer Travel

As with the rest of the world, KLT Group’s operations were forced to adapt to the realities of the global pandemic in 2019. Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, most of our work was conducted in-person at our Baltimore City (Harbor East) office or at the offices of our clients. Since then, we have transitioned to teleworking and maintained this practice even after the global health emergency abated. We have found that this working modality aligns with KLT’s guiding values of adaptability and work-life balance. Remote work has also allowed us to decrease our environmental impact by cutting down on commute-related emissions. We surveyed our staff, and with their data as well as the average annual weeks worked in the United States and average tailpipe emissions estimates, we were able to quantify the environmental impact of teleworking.

KLT Group has reduced our annual miles driven by 45,731 miles, from a pre-COVID total of 58,660 miles to 12,928 miles post-COVID. In terms of emissions, we have reduced our annual transportation footprint by 18.293 metric tons of carbon dioxide, from a pre-COVID total of 23.464 metric tons to 5.171 metric tons now.

Green Building

LEED Gold

KLT Group is proud to occupy space at the LEED-certified Gold Legg Mason building in Harbor East, Baltimore City, constructed in 2009. Although KLT employees do most of our work virtually, when we do assemble in person, we do so at a LEED-certified facility. The features of the building include:

- A 20% reduction in water usage due to low flow water fixtures
- An investment in renewable energy equal to the amount of energy the building uses
- 30% of building materials being recycled and locally sourced
- An open floor plan that reduces electricity use by allowing 95% of spaces to receive direct sunlight
- Updated video conferencing facilities which reduce business travel-related emissions

This building directly aligns with the “Low Environmental Impact” principle within KLT Group’s Environmental Policy statement.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities

- KLT Group and its staff are the recipients of numerous awards and certifications for the environmental services they have provided. Read more here:
<https://kltgroup.com/our-team/>

In 2020, KLT Group CEO Kelly Lyles won the Kramer Memorial Award for Environmental Excellence from the Academy of Board-Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP).

In 2019, KLT Group received the Environmental Excellence Award for the development of VirtualNEPA™ from the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). This tool demonstrated outstanding leadership and performance at MDOT by effectively implementing environmentally compliant practices through innovative practices and outreach.



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

