

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.

# **Annapolis Green**



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Nonprofit
Member since May 2012

### **Management and Leadership**

# **Environmental Policy Statement**

Annapolis Green's mission is to connect, inform, and inspire Annapolis residents, organizations, and businesses to care for the environment, live more responsibly and create a more beautiful and thriving community.

Rather than focus on a single issue, we tackle a variety of challenges plaguing our communities, motivating people to stand up for nature with various programs that bring people together, working for the greater good.

In addition to launching effective community initiatives, Annapolis Green consolidates the myriad efforts and resources of other local environmental organizations under one website, providing easy access to leading-edge knowledge, best practices, opportunities for hands-on experiences and events as well as virtual learning.

## **✓** Environmental Team

Executive Director Tilly Coyle, Co-Founder Lynne Forsman, our Annapolis Green Board, as well as contractors, and volunteers comprise our team. This is a collective effort to lead by example in our communication, events and daily lives.

# **Environmentally Preferable Products and Services**

"Responsible Events & Festivals... Make the Right Call" (The Green REF) is a program by <u>Annapolis Green</u> to help area special events reduce waste. The program undergoing a rebranding to "Bay Responsible", includes various customized services,

including zero waste consulting, single-use plastic alternatives, recycling solutions as well as the very important public education component.

Through our <u>Plastic Free Annapolis</u>, we advocate for use of environmentally preferable products, particularly compostable products.

Our newest additions to the program are the NAPTOWN TAPs, water refill stations providing free filtered water while carrying the all-important message of reducing plastics from our waterways, especially single-use plastic water bottles. We continue to provide services to special event planners to highlight the importance of locally sourced sustainable refreshments such as organic/local wines and beers; reusable, compostable, or recyclable service ware; and event composting and recycling. We have, for many years, demonstrated that group gatherings can have a reduced environmental impact. Our Plastic Free Annapolis program offers alternatives to single use throw-a-way plastics.



## **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

In our own signature program Green Drinks Annapolis, we select sites/restaurants that are participants/partners of the Maryland Green Registry and Plastic Free Annapolis. We encourage new participants in these programs and initiatives. We request that our hosts offer local, organic appetizers, beer, and wine. We request they use china/linen or compostable or recycled content disposables.

We also offer compostables and resources for purchasing to event organizers along with educational materials to help events go zero waste and plastic free.

#### Waste

#### Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

In 2023, approximately 14,000 fewer plastic bottles threaten Annapolis's waterways thanks to our <u>NAPTOWN TAPs</u>, portable and brandable for your company or cause. NAPTOWN TAPs dispense free, unlimited filtered water into reusable bottles and cups. Ideal for outdoor events, NAPTOWN TAPs save money and protect the environment and its inhabitants by reducing the eight million+ tons of plastic that end up in our oceans each year, contaminating marine life and those who consume it.

## ✓ Recycling

Recycling is part of our Bay Responsible/Responsible Events & Festival programming as outlined above.

# **✓** Composting

Annapolis Green's Bay Responsible/ Responsible Events & Festivals (REF) helps event organizers and venues reduce landfill waste by encouraging attendees to recycle and compost. REF is a sponsor-based, turn-key sustainability program that's effective and customizable. Partnering with local company and fellow Maryland Green Registry member, Veteran Compost, we have helped countless events and festivals achieve zero waste and plastic free over the past decade.

In 2023, we assisted the Military Bowl Foundation in making 2023 Military Bowl's Tailgate Festival and Hospitality areas and suites zero waste. With a sold-out Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, we have composted 2 tons of material and recycled .39 tons. Last year our efforts helped the Military Bowl Foundation win a Sustainability Award for the Bowl season!

#### **Energy**

## **✓** Renewable Energy

Annapolis Green home offices subscribes to Neighborhood Sun for community solar to offset our electric bill. We are also a Neighborhood Sun Partner helping to promote the benefits of shared solar!

#### **Transportation**

## **Employee Commute**

Our effort consists of carpooling whenever possible. In addition, Annapolis Green is the only local organization educating and promoting driving electric. For the last ten years, we've presented informative seminars and an annual <u>Electric Vehicle Showcase</u>. In 2020 this effort was called Kick Gas! and was held on West Street in Annapolis as a part of the Drive Electric Earth Day celebrations to educate consumers on the benefits of EVs, manufacturing advancements, government incentives, and ways zero emissions help ameliorate Climate Change. This will be an annual event and again held in April 2024.

### **Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities**



- 2015 & 2019 Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Chamber Green Business of the Year Award Winner
- 2015 affiliation with Keep America Beautiful the second affiliate and only nongovernmental affiliate in Maryland
- 2019 Four Rivers Heritage Stewardship Award
- 2018, 2019 What's Up Media Green Business of the Year

**Profile Updated January 2024** 



