



## 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.

# Creative Parties



4822 St. Elmo Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
301-654-9292  
[www.creativeparties.com](http://www.creativeparties.com)  
Retail Stationery Store  
Member since September 2009

## Management and Leadership

### Environmental Team

*Creative Parties, Ltd. is comprised of its founder, Rita Bloom, and her daughter Tracy Bloom Schwartz. The Creative Parties, Ltd. Management team meets once per month to discuss ways to limit the business's environmental impacts.*

### Environmentally Preferable Procurement

*We buy recycled products that help fulfill our mission. Creative Parties is also a member of the Bethesda Energy Cooperative, a new local organization composed of only eco-friendly companies meeting the highest standards of green initiatives. The co-op offers their green products and services at a discount to members, including Creative Parties.*

### Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

*Our primary line of blank papers are made from 30-100% post consumer waste and are available in an attractive array of colors. We also carry recycled journals, wrapping paper, note cards and customizable card and envelope sets. We always recommend this line of recycled paper over its non-recycled competition and use it when the customer is indifferent to their paper selection.*

*Reducing the impact of non-recycled paper usage has developed into a core mission of the business. When we discovered a line of recycled stationery*

*equal in quality to traditional papers, we immediately purchased a large inventory and priced them competitively to our traditional papers.*

*Our primary lines of product have evolved from traditional stationery items to an even split between traditional and recycled products. Many of our products are made from recycled materials and contribute to environmental sustainability by reducing the amount of raw materials used. For every ton of 100% post-consumer waste paper Creative Parties sells, we save: 24 virgin trees, water for 875 five minute showers, electricity to power a home for nine weeks, 75 gallons of gas, and solid and chemical pollution emitted by one car on the road for six weeks. We plan to celebrate when GPS sells its first ton of recycled products!*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

*Creative Parties has been an active sponsor of Bethesda Green and the Sustainable Business Network of Washington (SBNOW).*

## Waste

**Solid Waste/Material Use Reduction and Reuse**

*Creative Parties has cut back waste generation dramatically over the last few years. We now share recycling and trash services with our neighbors, further reducing our carbon footprint by reducing the number of trash service pick-ups.*

*At least 30 pounds of shipping materials are reused every month by our subsidiary Green Paper Studio (GPS). We save all incoming packaging materials and GPS reuses them for their outgoing packages. Any excess packing materials are subsequently donated to a local UPS store for reuse.*

**Recycling**

*Creative Parties recycles all paper, plastic, cardboard boxes and all other shipping materials used in its store.*

## Energy

**Energy Efficiency**

*By using energy efficient light bulbs in our store and turning off our lights when the store is closed, we reduced our energy usage by 19% over the last year!*

## Transportation

**Employee Commute**

*We encourage our employees to commute using public transportation. Of our seven employees, one travels by metro and one walks.*

***Profile Updated January 2020***



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

*Learn more at [green.maryland.gov](http://green.maryland.gov)*

