

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.

# Kaliber Construction, Inc.

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www.kaliberconstructioninc.com
Commercial Construction, General Contractor
Member since December 2011

#### **Management and Leadership**

## **Environmental Policy Statement**

Kaliber Construction, Inc. a commercial construction and general contracting company based in Baldwin, Maryland was founded in 2009. The Principals of Kaliber Construction, Inc. have a keen social awareness and appreciation for the precious and limited resources that our planet has to offer and is dedicated to their preservation.

We work at this one step at a time... to ensure that we work towards this goal each day doing it a bit better for our people, our planet, our company, our community, and our world at large... one step at a time.

We have incorporated the Maryland Green Registry sample <u>environmental policy</u> statement as our own Environmental Policy Statement, and unveiled it at our all staff meeting in 2011.

# **Environmental Team**

Kaliber Construction, Inc. is a small sized company and believes in, and recognizes, the importance of each and every member of our staff being an integral part of the Environmental Team and its success.

One goal is to have environmental topics included in monthly staff meetings for our staff to focus on environmental areas of interest or concern, and to work together towards making improvements in our company, our community, and our

world by setting goals with a specific plan of action, developing measurement tools, and providing regular progress reports.

The President of the company has obtained the LEED Green Associate credentialing. She expects to participate in even more U.S. Green Building Council events and trainings. She is studying towards her LEED AP credential.

## ☑ Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

Although each construction project is unique, Kaliber Construction, Inc. works closely with the owners, design, and engineering team members - who ultimately provide the product specifications - and when opportunities avail themselves we wholeheartedly suggest more environmentally sensitive, energy efficient, locally sourced options.

Kaliber Construction, Inc. continues to focus its purchasing dollars towards more environmentally conscious office supplies, recycled Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) approved paper, and energy star rated equipment.

## **☑** Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

Both Principals of Kaliber Construction, Inc. have been volunteers with the Sierra Club's Baltimore Inner City Outings engaging middle school children in the outdoors to enjoy, appreciate, and respect the environment, wildlife, and other nature-focused activities.

Significant and dedicated supporters of a unique project in Seattle, Washington called the Pollinator PathwayTM. Created in response to the honeybee Colony Collapse Disorder, the Pollinator Pathway provides a plan for helping pollinators by working to connect patches of public and privately owned land with corridors of much needed habitat. <a href="https://www.pollinatorpathway.com">www.pollinatorpathway.com</a>

Local contributions are made to Blue Water Baltimore's efforts to restore the quality of Baltimore's rivers, streams and harbor to foster a healthy environment, a strong economy, and thriving communities. http://www.bluewaterbaltimore.org/

## <u>Waste</u>

#### **✓** Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

Paper is a solid waste that Kaliber Construction, Inc. reduces by hosting the majority of our communication and documentation in the digital media. 75% of our staff access the "cloud" that is available from any computer at any location

thereby reducing the need to print copies, or drive as often to offices or meetings. We use PDF and scanning for most documents, centralized filing, and all our corporate billing and payroll is completed digitally.

## **✓** Recycling

Kaliber Construction, Inc. recycles batteries, ink toner cartridges, paper, cardboard, glass, and metal at its headquarters office. Each job site is unique and we work to recycle or reuse as much construction waste materials as possible. Electronic items such as cell phones, computers, and printers are donated to appropriate e-recycling programs.

## **✓** Composting

We collect food scraps for composting.

## **✓** Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

At the headquarters office no pesticides or herbicides are used; no salt is applied on driveways or pathways during inclement weather; and eco-friendly cleaning are supplies used.

#### **Energy**

# **☑** Energy Efficiency

We have many windows with natural light rarely need to turn on the lights in our day lit space and use task lighting at our desks if needed. We turn off our computers at night, control the thermostats for our individual office spaces, and encourage staff to dress for the weather to limit the amount of heating or cooling necessary.

# Renewable Energy

The Principals of Kaliber Construction, Inc. recognize the importance in investing in renewable energy sources as a significant way to support environmental efforts and purchased and have had solar panels installed on the roof of the company's headquarters. The energy garnered by solar power has been projected to provide 110% of the building's current energy usage enabling the unused energy to benefit the surrounding community.

Our solar panel system installed in 2011 continues to be very successful. It was estimated that the system would produce 8,569 kWh of energy annually. In 2012 it produced 9,719 kWh which is 1,150kWh more than anticipated. This

year, as of October, 2013, it has already produced 8,640 kWh generating a total of 13,660 lbs. of carbon offsets equivalent to 158 trees.

A monthly energy production report is available with week-by-week figures of peak power and energy produced, as well as our carbon offset and how many trees that is equivalent to. This information continues to be posted monthly or quarterly on Linkedin and/or Twitter accounts.

This year we also installed a horizontal closed loop geo-thermal heating/cooling system.

#### **Transportation**

# **Employee Commute**

Kaliber Construction, Inc. provides 75% of its employees access to the "cloud" that is available from any computer at any location thereby often reducing the need to drive as often to an office or meeting.

This year we decided that we would also tally all the mileage traveled by the business owners and purchase carbon credits from www.TerraPass.com. From January to October, 2013 we traveled 21,417 miles and purchased carbon offsets for our 19,625 lbs. of  $CO_2$  emissions.

#### **✓** Efficient Business Travel

The Principals of the company often carpool to meetings in a Mini Cooper, a smaller, more energy efficient, and well-maintained vehicle that obtains an estimated 34.6 miles per gallon.

Skype is also established at the headquarters office for teleconferencing needs.

#### **Water**

#### **✓** Water Conservation

In 2010, a new toilet was needed and purchased for the office and a lowflush option was chosen thereby saving gallons of water per day. The plan is to install rain barrels to capture rainwater from the building to be routed for any necessary landscaping water needs.

# Storm water Management and Site Design

A local firm was contracted to provide landscaping design concept. The plan has been completed and includes native and drought resistant plantings, the removal of unnecessary asphalt paving, and does not include the use of pesticides or herbicides.

#### **Other**

Kaliber Construction, Inc. is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Susannah M. Bergmann, LEED Green Associate, President of Kaliber Construction, Inc. is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council and Urban Land Institute Baltimore.

**Profile Updated August 2014** 



