

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.

# **Town of Boonsboro**



21 North Main Street
Boonsboro, MD 21713
301-432-5690
www.town.boonsboro.md.us
Municipal Government
Member since October 2013

#### **Management and Leadership**

#### **✓** Environmental Team

An Environmental Commission was established in 2012 to develop and promote a healthy environment for the Town of Boonsboro and its citizens through education; community involvement and awareness; sustainable practices; responsible waste management; energy and resource conservation; and the study of other issues that affect the public health and well-being of the citizens of the Town of Boonsboro. The Commission meets at least once monthly and makes recommendations to the Council concerning environmentally friendly practices.

A Green Team has also been established to coordinate and obtain certification through the Sustainable Maryland Certified program, which focuses on the community as a whole, health and wellness, local economies, community-based food systems, natural resources, and planning and land use. The Green Team will oversee the implementation and documentation of the actions necessary to achieve certification through the program.

## Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

The Town of Boonsboro offers once-a-week single stream recycling (paper, cans, glass, cardboard) which reduced the waste approximately 20% during the first year of the program, saving the Town approximately \$14,000.

The Town also offers once-a-week pick up for yard waste from April to November. Approximately 1,200 square yards are collected each year. The yard waste is turned into mulch, which is then used at Town parks and other facilities.

In 2016, the Town started a Composting Bin program for town residents. A grant from the Backyard Composting program, funded by the NIE Institute and the Town, subsidized the bins to help make them affordable for everyone.

### Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

The Town has sponsored a "Green Fest" in the spring since 2009, which educates the community about various environmental resources, earth-friendly products, and efforts toward sustainability. This premier event attracts 200+ vendors, 2000+ visitors and will celebrate its 10-year anniversary in May 2018.

The Town holds various stream-clean up events each year to engage the community in responsibly managing its water resources.

The Town works closely with the local students and teachers in various community projects, including stream restoration.

#### **Waste**

#### Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

In the fall of each year, the Town partners with Horizon Goodwill, ReStore and ConservIt to hold a "Clean-Up Day" for residents to dispose of unwanted items that are then recycled or reused. Items acceptable for drop off include metal appliances, scrap metal, bicycles, car batteries, TVs, and furniture.

The Town of Boonsboro also reduces waste at its facilities by recycling paper, printing on both sides of the paper, and paperless communication.

#### **Energy**

## **☑** Energy Efficiency

The Town of Boonsboro is participating in the Maryland Smart Energy Community program. As part of the program, the Town has established an energy usage baseline and will be working towards reducing usage by 15% in the next five years.

#### Water

## **☑** Stormwater Management and Site Design

The Town of Boonsboro is working with Washington County Government on implementation of the Watershed Implementation Plan. The Plan identifies goals and actions to reduce nutrients from stormwater runoff. In addition, the Town is working on a comprehensive stormwater management program that will target improvement of 10% of the uncontrolled areas and 20% of the partially controlled areas and include maintenance, and inspection requirements and procedures for all stormwater facilities.

In 2014, the Town installed a two-section pervious pavement parking lot next to the new soccer fields in town.

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

2007 – The Town of Boonsboro received The Maryland House of Delegates House Resolution by the Maryland Department of the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a "Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Project"

2009 – The Town of Boonsboro (Boonsboro Recycling Task Force) received the Maryland Recycling Network Outstanding Environmental and Community Leadership Award

2010 – The Green Fest Committee received the Washington County Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Award "in recognition of valuable leadership demonstrated by your efforts in waste reduction, reuse or recycling"

2012 – The Town of Boonsboro received The State of Maryland Governor's Citation for dedicated efforts to improve the health of Maryland's environment for the enjoyment of present and future generations"

2014 – The Boonsboro Environmental Commission received the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Tawes Award for Outstanding Effort in the Protection of the Environment and Enhancement of Maryland's Natural Resources

2014 & 2017 – The Town of Boonsboro received the Sustainable Maryland Certified Award (presented every three years)

2014, 2015, 2016 & 2017 – The Town of Boonsboro received the P.L.A.N.T. Award (People Loving and Nurturing Trees) from the Maryland Department of Natural

Resources, in recognition for communities who care for their trees, reaching the highest "Green" status

2015 & 2016 – The Town of Boonsboro received Tree City USA status, reaching the Growth Status award in 2017

**Profile Updated April 2018** 



