



**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.

Orion's Attic LLC



11705 Orebaugh Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20902
202-731-9447

www.OrionsAttic.com

Estate Liquidation

Member since May 2023

Management and Leadership



Environmental Policy Statement

Orion's Attic is committed to reducing its impact on the environment. We will strive to improve our environmental performance over time and to initiate additional projects and activities that will further reduce our impact on the environment.

Our commitment to the environment extends to our customers, our staff, and the community in which we operate. We are committed to:

- *Comply with all applicable environmental regulations;*
- *Prevent pollution whenever possible;*
- *Train all of our staff on our environmental program and empower them to contribute and participate;*
- *Communicate our environmental commitment and efforts to our customers, staff, and our community; and*
- *Continually improve our environmental performance by setting annual goals to reduce*
- *our environmental impacts and measuring our results;*
- *Recycle as much metal, electronics and paper from every client's estate liquidation project as possible;*
- *Donate all unexpired non-perishable food from 100 percent of all clients' homes;*
- *Donate otherwise non-donatable items such as bed sheets to animal-related charities;*
- *Transport as many household chemical products as possible to recycling centers such as the Shady Grove Transfer Station;*

- *Find creative ways to upcycle items that would otherwise end up in landfills.*

Signed: Chris Lancette, Co-owner

Date: 4/28/23



Environmental Team

Christopher Lancette, Won-ok Kim, and Leonicio Ruiz. Our mission is to evaluate each estate liquidation and home cleanout project we undertake/have undertaken and identify ways we can give second lives to as many objects in a home as possible. We meet before and after every project to examine what we did well and what other items we might have been able to recycle/rescue/re-use if we had planned better.



Environmentally Preferable Products and Services

The work of liquidating estates creates many opportunities for our company to give second lives to objects. Many objects in a home are of course sold, and we donate many others to traditional charities like Goodwill. We save a lot of things, though, that otherwise would go to a landfill. Some recent examples include:

- *Upcycling -- We took a beleaguered fiberglass boat from a home, cut holes in the bottom and placed it in our own front yard – where we filled it with milkweed and converted the boat into a Monarch butterfly garden.*
- *We take dirty old terracotta flowerpots from clients' homes that no charity or auction house wants. We bring them home, paint them, and then use them in our own home and give them away to friends.*
- *We take all kinds of mulch and other garden materials from clients' homes that can't be sold or donated and use them in our gardens and distribute to fellow gardeners.*
- *We take certain kinds of collectibles that are in poor condition like rare vintage toys and salvage them for parts – selling them to people who need the parts to complete those same toys.*
- *We rescue all kinds of miscellaneous objects from homes and create art projects with them or distribute them to artists for free.*
- *We take unexpired perishable food from clients' homes and deliver them to food banks.*
- *We take sheets and other linens that traditional charities won't take and deliver them to animal charities such as the Montgomery County Humane Society.*
- *We take chemicals including used paint and other household chemicals to the Shady Grove Transfer Station for proper disposal.*

Environmental Restoration and Community Environmental Projects

The co-owners of our business (Chris Lancette and Won-ok Kim) frequently participate in creek cleanups on Sligo Creek, deliver pro bono workshops to environmental charities including One Montgomery Green, Nature Forward, Environment Maryland, and others.

Waste

Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

We repeatedly reuse boxes – everything from Amazon boxes delivered to our own house that we use on clients' projects to clients' own boxes typically found in homes to new boxes we purchase. We use the boxes until they wear out. We also use various scrap paper at clients' homes to pack the items we're transporting to auction and charity for them.

Recycling

On every estate liquidation and home cleanout project we do, we recycle all scrap metal and household electronics. We recycle at least some paper and cardboard from each job. We're looking to expand our paper recycling efforts. The amount of recycled material obviously varies from house to house so measurable results vary but we see the weight of items when our trucks visit the Shady Grove Transfer Station and other similar places. Some trucks loaded only with recycled material can contain 2,000 pounds of paper (from a hoarder house, for example). We frequently use Montgomery County bulk trash pickup services for clients and can estimate the weight of what it is picking up. We've had houses in which we extracted 50 pounds of scrap metal and houses in which we've pulled out 500 pounds of scrap metal (great big houses full of rusty metal patio furniture, bed frames, building materials and more).

Energy

Renewable Energy

Our business is home-based and powered by Tesla solar panels we purchased with our home. Our most recent electric bill showed that we generated 879 kWh but only used 669 kWh – generating a refund credit of \$65.12 from Pepco.

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

We are trying to convert more initial site visits with potential clients to virtual visits using a combination of live videoconferencing and photos. Each potential client that we can assess and provide an estimate for the cost of our services eliminates a car trip ranging anywhere from 10 miles to 50 miles on average.

Water

Water Conservation/Stormwater Management

Our home-based business utilizes water conservation efforts such as the use of three large rain barrels that we use to water indoor house plants and our extensive gardening and landscaping features. We replaced 100 percent of our front yard lawn grass and some of our back yard lawn grass with wildlife habitat and food for humans.



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

