



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.

The Heart of the Earth Sanctuary and Rescue, Inc.



Heart of the Earth
Sanctuary & Rescue

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HOTESanctuaryandrescue.com

Animal Sanctuary/Rescue

Member since March 2017

Management and Leadership

Environmental Policy Statement

See our policy statement at <http://hotesanctuaryandrescue.com/hote-green-team>

Environmental Team

Our HOTE Green Team is currently made up of 7 members and growing. One of whom is employed at the Maryland Center for Environmental Science Appalachian Laboratory in Frostburg and has an MS in Environmental Biology and BS in Biology. We meet once every three months in person or as needed; however we have a message board dedicated to this mission. We brought in our environmental guru to identify hazards, such as litter and cleaning supplies that have a negative impact on the environment and immediately started making changes. It is also healthier for the animals in our care. A few of us are also plant based non-GMO and organic with dietary choices.

Annual Environmental Goals

- *To continue to not use clay and litter with chemicals in it by recycling/ Composting pine, corn cob, paper, walnut and cedar. Our continued goal is to use no litter with clay or chemical and to reduce the amount taken to the landfill by 100%.*
- *To continue to reduce the use of toxic cleaning supplies by 90%.*
- *To continue reducing our trash output by 90% by the end of 2021 by recycling.*
- *To reuse rain water for gardening non edible plants.*

- *To reduce energy and water usage by 25% for 2021*



Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

- *We are allowing indigenous plants to grow naturally on the property with some manicuring.*
- *We are now a Certified Wildlife Habitat paying careful attention to planting bee and butterfly heirloom plants.*

Waste



Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

- *We are using recycled newspaper and pine/walnut for litter.*
- *We do not use paper towels for cleaning and use rags.*
- *We are continuing to not use store bought pee pads to using discarded newspapers for crate liners, etc. We are also now using reusable pee pads. This saves us close to \$300.00 a month and also has cut down our trash output by about 4-5 bags a month.*
- *We salvage discarded bushes and grass that have been mulched and are reusing as compost*
- *We are using compost to naturally heat the greenhouse.*
- *We grow Loofahs to use for cleaning. They are bio-degradable and will be composted and in a sense, reused.*
- *We built raised gardens with wood throw out and donated by a timber company.*
- *We have eliminated the use of single use plastic by 100% and will continue this through the end of 2021*



Recycling

We are currently recycling paper, plastic, glass and aluminum. We use some of the paper in the kitty litter. Since starting this practice, we have less trash to put out, which is less trash that goes to the land fill. This reduced our trash by about 5 bags per month as opposed to how many we had in the beginning. We are continuing to research ways to lessen the output.



Composting

We started composting food scraps (both people food and animal food) this year. We will be naturally heating the greenhouse with compost. The vegetables

we grow will be fed to the animals and the people caring for them. Then scrap will then be used for the compost. Cat and dog waste compost will be used on non-edibles. Dog hair, dust, paper etc. all go in the compost.

Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

- *We still use nontoxic cleaning supplies. We have found environmentally and animal safe cleaning products, which we use in addition to the vinegar.*
- *We still use natural parasite control Ex. Diatomaceous Earth in the house, Nematodes in the yard, and other plants that naturally repel fleas and ticks.*

Energy

Energy Efficiency

- *We are using LED lights were possible. We have light sensitive motion detector LED lights set up around the house for night use. We keep the air/heat at 71 degrees at all times. Results will be compared to the current bill at the end of Dec 2021*
- *We are actively researching for grants for solar energy.*

Transportation

Efficient Business Travel

- *We have been set up with an online platform that allows us to hold Board Meetings online rather than traveling to our destinations.*

Water

Water Conservation

- *We use run off water for cleaning and watering plants and are in the process of installing rain barrels.*

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards and Other Activities

- *We are a 2019 Maryland Green Registry Leadership Award Winner.*
- *We are a Certified Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation*

- *We participate in the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge and only plant non-GMO heirloom seeds.*
- *We are currently making birdhouses and bee hotels out of last year's gourds and materials found in nature.*

Profile Updated December 2020



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

