



## 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

13311 South Cresap St.  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
240-920-9172

[HOTESanctuaryandrescue.com](http://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 two months in person; 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.*

### Annual Environmental Goals

- *To reduce clay and litter with chemicals in it by 100% by the end of 2017 by recycling pine, corn cob, paper and cedar. Our goal is to need no litter by purchasing special litter boxes.*
- *To reduce toxic cleaning supplies by 100%.*
- *To reduce our trash output by 90% by the end of 2017 by recycling.*
- *To reuse rain water for gardening non edible plants in our Rain and Bee Gardens.*

- *To help run off by planting and maintaining a Rain Garden.*
- *To reduce energy and water usage by 25% for 2017*

**Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects**

- *We are building a Bee/Butterfly Garden which will have indigenous plants for the bees and butterflies. We will also be the caretakers and will provide the land to build it on.*
- *Also planned is a Rain Garden. We brought in our Environmental Expert to identify appropriate areas for planting.*

**Waste**

**Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse**

- *We have contacted several local companies who are supplying at no cost to us, pine, and corn cob that are being discarded from their supply.*
- *We stopped using paper towels for cleaning and use rags.*
- *We switched from using store bought pee pads to using discarded newspapers for crate liners, etc. This saves us close to \$100.00 a month and also has cut down our trash output by about 4 bags a month.*
- *We have switched everything plastic for a stainless steel counterpart (e.g. litter boxes.) We were buying the plastic ones and replacing every few months. We switched to stainless steel dish pans, which are bigger and will never need replacing. We also are now using stainless steel litter scoops rather than replacing plastics ones all the time. And, we have replaced all the plastic dishes with stainless steel. The plastic items were disposed of properly.*

**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. It is reduced by about 5 bags per month.*

**Composting**

*We started composting food scraps (both people food and animal food) this year. We will be starting a garden in the spring for bees and butterflies, as well as vegetables which will be fed to the animals and the people caring for them.*

**Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

*We switched from standard cleaning supplies to non toxic. We are using white vinegar for regular cleaning and raw vinegar for the heavy cleaning.*

## Energy

**Energy Efficiency**

*We are using LED lights where possible. We have light sensitive motion detector LED lights set up around the house for night use. We keep the heat at 74 degrees at all times. Results will be compared to the current bill at the end of April 2017.*

## Water

**Water Conservation**

*We are installing rain/run off barrels to catch water for the bee/butterfly and rain gardens. Also use rain barrels to water animals and will use for veggie garden in the Spring. We use this water for cleaning as well. This project is not yet completed.*

**Stormwater Management and Site Design**

*We are in the process of building/designing a Rain Garden to help with run off. This project is not yet completed.*



*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)*

