

Support for MD HB 0100 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund- Establishment

III. [Additional Supporting Documentation](#)

- Sustainable Maryland Flyer
- Map of Participating Sustainable Maryland Communities
- Sustainable Maryland Overview
- Maryland Municipal League Magazines Featuring Sustainable Maryland Communities



HELPING COMMUNITIES INVEST TODAY FOR A MORE LIVABLE TOMORROW

Sustainable Maryland

is a free and voluntary certification program for municipalities in Maryland that want to go green, save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life.

The mission of Sustainable Maryland is to enhance livability for all Marylanders by helping municipalities choose a direction for their sustainability efforts, improve access to resources needed to implement action, measure their progress, and gain recognition for their accomplishments.

Sustainable Maryland helps communities:

- Gain access to training, tools, funding, and expert guidance;
- Save money and improve the bottom line;
- Conserve resources while promoting community resiliency.

Sustainable Maryland features:

- Free and voluntary program that makes participation easy and accessible
- Comprehensive vision that helps communities plan across multiple priorities
- Customizable menu of concrete actions, allowing communities to select initiatives that best fit their specific needs
- Statewide recognition of certified communities' accomplishments

Getting Started

Please visit the Sustainable Maryland website, www.sustainablemaryland.com, to learn more about the program and how to begin the process of certification. The list of sustainability actions and implementation tools available for your community to consider adopting are provided and explained in detail on the website.

To initiate the certification process, municipalities need to adopt a resolution, ordinance, or proclamation or draft a formal letter stating intent to pursue Sustainable Maryland certification and then register on the website. After registration, municipalities are strongly encouraged to participate in Green Team Training. To achieve certification, municipalities will need to implement the necessary actions to qualify and submit the appropriate documents as evidence that satisfies the Sustainable Maryland requirements.

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Actions for Sustainable Communities:

To become Sustainable Maryland Certified, municipalities must complete and document actions from the list below. To achieve certification, municipalities will need to complete actions worth a **total of 150 points**, including **two Mandatory Actions (M)** and **two of six Priority Actions (P)**, and submit the appropriate documents as evidence that the requirements have been satisfied.

ACTION ITEM	POINTS
COMMUNITY ACTION	
Green Team	
Participate in SM Green Team Training	5
Create a Green Team	10 M
Complete a Green Team Action Plan	10 M
Conduct Community Barriers and Benefits Assessment	15
Build SM Resource Center	5
Participation in MD Green Schools	10
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
COMMUNITY-BASED FOOD SYSTEM	
Local Food Consumption	
Local Food Fair	10
Local Food Consumption & Preservation Classes	5 per class
Establish Local Farmers Market	15
Promote Local Farmers Market	5
Local Food Production	
Community Gardens	15 P
Spring Transplant Sale	10
Fall Transplant Sale	10
Establish CSA Drop-off Location	10
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
ENERGY	
Municipal Energy Audits	10 (1st bldg), 5 (consec bldgs) P
Residential Energy Efficiency	5 to 20+
Wind Energy Project	10
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
GREENHOUSE GAS	
Municipal Carbon Footprint	15 P
Community Carbon Footprint	15
Climate Planning	
Climate Action Plan	10 to 25+
Climate Change Adaptation Element	5
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
HEALTH & WELLNESS	
Let's Move	15
Workplace Wellness	
Join Healthiest Maryland Businesses	5
Workplace Wellness Program	5 to 15
Living Well Program	5 per class
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
LOCAL ECONOMIES	
Buy Local	
Establish Local Business Directory	10
Promote Local Business Directory	5
Buy Local Campaign	15
Local Business Roundtable	5 per roundtable
Local Business Procurement Notices	10
Economic Analysis of Procurement Practices	15
Local Purchasing Preference Policy	10
Green Business Recognition	
Join Maryland Green Registry	5
Promote Maryland Green Registry	5 points per 2 businesses

Please note: Sustainable Maryland Certified actions and points may be subject to change. Printed on 55% recycled & 30% post-consumer waste paper.

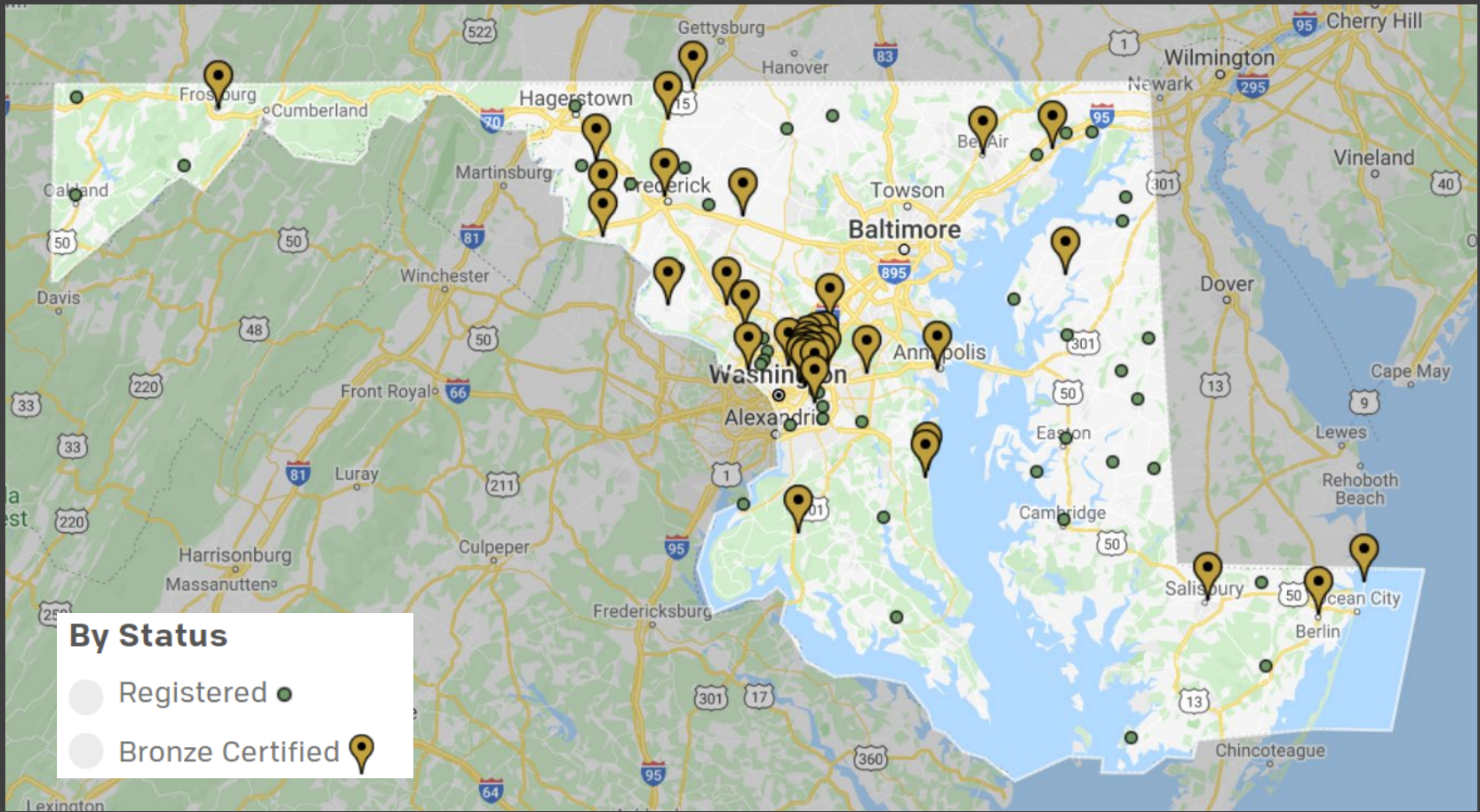
ACTION ITEM	POINTS
LOCAL ECONOMIES (CONTINUED)	
Green Business Certification Program	15
Green Purchasing	
Green Purchasing Policy	15 P
Evaluate Current Purchasing Practices	10
Vendor Preference Statement	10
Purchase Recycled Products	10
Purchase Environmentally Preferable Products	10
Implement Waste Reduction Program	10
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
NATURAL RESOURCES	
Watershed Stewardship	
Implement Watershed Stewardship/Pollution Prevention Outreach Program(s)	10
Facilitate Engagement in Existing Watershed Stewardship Opportunities	5 per event
Provide Voluntary Opportunities for Citizen Engagement in Watershed Stewardship	10
Provide Incentives for Watershed Stewardship on Private Lands	15
Create a Watershed Plan	20 P
Stormwater Management	
Stormwater Management Program	15 P
Stormwater Manager/Coordinator	15
Stormwater Fee Structure	20
Septic Management	
Septics System Assessment and Inventory	15
Septics System Management Plan	20
Dedicated Septic System Fund	20
Water Conservation	
Develop a Water Conservation Plan	15
Develop a Water Conservation Outreach Program	10
Tree City USA	
	15
Pet Waste	
Implement a Pet Waste Education Program	5
Develop a Pet Waste Program	5
Adopt a Pet Waste Ordinance	5
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20
PLANNING AND LAND USE	
Participation in DHCD Sustainable Communities	20
Housing and the Comprehensive Plan	10
Land Preservation	
Conduct Easement Outreach that Encourages Inspection, Evaluation, and Stewardship	15
Build Easement Inventory	10
Innovative Demonstration Projects	5 to 20

P denotes Priority Action M denotes Mandatory Action

VISIT www.sustainablemaryland.com
 EMAIL info@sustainablemaryland.com
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ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



- 85 Participating Municipalities
- 42 Certified Municipalities



SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND

• CERTIFIED •

HELPING COMMUNITIES INVEST TODAY FOR A MORE LIVABLE TOMORROW

Sustainable Maryland – Proposed Legislation

www.sustainablemaryland.com

Established in 2011 at the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, **Sustainable Maryland (SM)** is a free and voluntary outreach and certification program that helps Maryland communities pursue a sustainable future. Serving the University's land grant mission, SM provides local jurisdictions with a unique framework with which to **benchmark local sustainability initiatives**, and a **comprehensive suite of policies, resources, direct support, and incentives** designed to help communities advance a broad range of sustainability goals. **To date, the program has been entirely self-funded, and offered at no cost to communities.**

Since 2011, the Sustainable Maryland program has:

- Created and trained more than **70 Green Teams in communities across the state**, from Garrett County to Ocean City
- Directly engaged **54% of the state's 157 municipalities, across 20 counties**
- Designated **27% of the state's municipalities as "Sustainable Maryland Certified"**
- Certified and cataloged over **1,000 individual sustainability actions** taken by SM-Certified communities
- Provided training and education opportunities that have **collectively engaged more than 1,500 elected officials, local government staff, and community members** at:
 - **70+ Green Team Trainings**
 - **12 County-wide Green Team Summits**
 - **19 Regional Leadership Trainings in Western Maryland, Central Maryland, and the Eastern Shore**
- Helped start **6 composting programs** across the state, keeping thousands of pounds of food waste out of landfills
- Installed more than **170 pet waste stations in 17 municipalities** across Prince George's County, which have collectively **kept 30,000 pounds of pet waste out of the Bay**
- Certified **16 municipal stormwater management programs, supporting local WIP implementation and the targeting of investments to the basins with the greatest potential for meaningful water quality improvements**
- Assisted **30 communities with implementing watershed stewardship programming** for residents
- Created the capacity to **help implement state priorities with 76 Green Teams** across the Bay watershed
- Helped identify and secure funding for the **first all-electric Chevy Bolt police vehicle in the United States** (Hyattsville)
- Developed **municipal carbon footprints for 10 communities** to help decision-makers identify the greatest sources of GHG emissions, establish goals, and track progress towards reduction targets.

The proposed Sustainable Maryland legislation aims to:

- Ensure that Maryland communities more easily understand and identify the full slate of **state, county, and non-profit programs that local governments, businesses, and residents can tap into for support of their sustainability efforts;**
- Enable the **expansion and enhancement of voluntary community sustainability actions** across Maryland, inclusive of a small grants program to incentivize action;
- Help communities implement their chosen actions with help from **program tools, trainings, case studies, and other resources;** and
- **Continue to be recognized statewide, and by their peers,** for their sustainability accomplishments at annual Maryland Municipal League conference.

Program Goal by 2025: At least 90% of Maryland municipalities have active Green Teams

Maryland Municipal League Magazines Featuring Sustainable Maryland Communities

- Breathe: Health, Equity, and the Environment (Fall 2021)
 - <https://www.mdmunicipal.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/639>
- Building Resilience Against Climate Effects (Fall 2020)
 - <http://www.mdmunicipal.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/592>
- Greening the Gray (Fall 2019)
 - <https://www.mdmunicipal.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/550>
- Sustainable Maryland (Fall 2016)
 - <https://www.mdmunicipal.org/Archive.aspx?ADID=387>