



2019 GreenSpotLight

Each year, the City of Columbus honors three organizations who demonstrate excellence in sustainable business practices; going above and beyond the requirements of the GreenSpot program. The 2019 GreenSpotLight awards are being presented to three outstanding businesses.

Congratulations...



Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction



This document describes the efforts each organization underwent in 2018 to help make Columbus a beautiful, healthy, and prosperous city.

Please consider becoming a member of the GreenSpot program for your home, business, school or community group online at www.ColumbusGreenSpot.org. Interact and share your accomplishments throughout the year with our online community at www.facebook.com/ColumbusGreenSpot and on Twitter [@GreenSpotCbus](https://twitter.com/GreenSpotCbus).

Sponsors of the 2019 GreenSpotLight Celebration:



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THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

Category: Offices, Educational Institutions, & Nonprofits
Size: Large business
Employees: 11,828



**Department of
Rehabilitation & Correction**

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental stewardship through many means. **Conserving Energy.** They have committed to operate a zero-emissions portfolio of buildings by 2040 by investing in renewables, energy efficiencies, power purchase agreement, and emission offsets. Key to these efforts are energy audits which are being conducted at each facility. Since 2010 ODRC has undergone \$56 million worth of performance contracting with a projected savings of over \$90 million. For new buildings they are pursuing LEED certification. **Conserving Water.** They have set a goal of reducing water consumption by 2% per year. They have a utility tracking dashboard which allows them to see trends in water usage. They've installed rain barrels at four institutions, high-efficiency fixtures at 16 facilities, and assisted in wetland restoration projects.

Green Transportation. Data logging the fleet is critical to know how to right-size the fleet. They are working with Smart Columbus and Clean Fuels Ohio. **Waste Reduction.** Each year they require their institutions to submit an annual sustainability audit which includes reporting on waste tonnage and recycling tonnage. 100% of their institutions have recycling programs. In addition to recycling they have reduced food waste weight by 53% (nearly 3 tons) by using pulpers and food education. They use in-vessel composting which saves nearly 2 tons of food waste from going to the landfill. This saves the state about \$60,000 per year in hauling costs. At their Lancaster facility they compost approximately 1,900 pounds per day. Their Allen Oakwood facility they collect 5,500 tons annually (this is food waste from the institution as well as other organizations in the area). **Education.** ODRC trains inmates through its environmental literacy, job readiness, and alternative energy programs. More than 1,000 inmates have graduated from this curriculum. These initiatives provide their offenders with employable skills. Currently they recognize people across the state who are helping them to continually make improvements through their Think Green Competition. Each month, they have a sustainability activity for institutions to participate in. They award the top 3 institutions each month with a small monetary award and recognition in the newsletter, as well as a blast on social media. This gives institutions the chance to try on some new ideas and be recognized for all their hard work.

Category: Offices, Educational Institutions, & Nonprofits
Size: Medium business
Employees: 27



Corporate Cleaners, Inc. proudly displays their GreenSpot decal in their office window. They instill environmentally-friendly practices into their business through a variety of means. To reduce waste they established a recycling program for plastic, paper, cardboard, steel, and aluminum; buy office supplies made from recycled materials, donate unwanted supplies and furniture, purchase supplies in bulk, reuse boxes as carrying totes, use reusable towels instead of paper towels, and have recycling bins at each office space. Beyond reducing their waste they have tackled water conservation and protection by purchasing an energy efficient washer machine and only doing full loads. They've participated in tree plantings which help air, land, and water. In order to reduce vehicle emissions they carpool to work sites and they reuse boxes as carrying totes. CCI searches out new ideas they can incorporate. That is why they recently graduated from the GreenSpot Sustainable Business Course. They attended six meetings where they shared their successes with other businesses and heard of new ideas they can incorporate.

Category: Offices, Educational institutions, & Nonprofits
Size: Small business
Employees: 1



Sunny Glen Wellness takes sustainability serious and it is reflected in their practices. To protect and conserve water they have installed swales in their education garden to capture rain water and prevent run off. They installed a rain garden and demo garden with native plants. To conserve energy on their building they insulated all outside walls, changed all lights to LEDs and some CFLs while installing motion sensors lights. They needed a freezer and chose to purchase an energy efficient one. In order to reduce vehicle emissions they reduced their fleet from two to one and use a mountain bike. Reducing waste is an area that Sunny Glen exceeds. They diverted 1,000 plastic plant pots from the landfill and replaced them with origami folded pots made from recycled advertising newsprint by care and share time bank volunteers and 4H club members. The plastic pots were washed and reused for next year, keeping costs low. Customers took plant seedlings home in paper pots to plant directly into the garden. The labels for 2,000 plants seedlings were made from recycled plastic cottage cheese, and sour cream containers and cleaned with oil & baking soda for use next year. 100% of leaf and yard waste has been diverted to a corral, composted, and used for soil enhancement. Diversion of 12 bags of coffee grounds from local cafe waste diverted to their compost and to enhance soil tilth. All kitchen scraps were made into compost as well.