



2021 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 2021 GreenSpotLight awards are being presented to three outstanding businesses.

Congratulations...



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).

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR



Category: Large Business

DLZ realizes that serious efforts must be made by the entire community to continue to mitigating the effects of climate change. This is why DLZ has made sustainability a part of their way of life in their offices and throughout their projects. On Earth Day 2020 DLZ joined the global discussion of “Climate Change” of the future of the world’s environmental system. They encouraged their employees to take actions in their personal lives to combat climate change. To reduce waste, DLZ recycles used electronics, office materials, uses washable dishware, implemented a paperless business model for internal expense and mileage reports, and performed a waste audit. Their geotechnical team submits rock samples to ODNR for educational purposes.

In order to conserve water, employees are encouraged to report any leaks, the kitchens have high efficiency spray nozzles, automatic faucets have been installed, and they keep receiving areas and dumpsters clear of litter by periodically sweeping the area, and ensuring each waste receptacle has a tight-fitting lid.

DLZ takes conserving energy seriously and that is why they installed energy-efficient light bulbs, implemented a facility-wide policy of turning off equipment and lights when not in use, installed motion sensors, and adjusted the thermostat in an environmentally friendly manner. Additionally, during office renovations they used low VOC paint and utilized materials with high recyclable content. These renovations cut electric usage by 40%.

To travel green DLZ has three hybrid vehicles, implemented a non-idling practice, and installed GPS trackers on all vehicles.





Category: Medium Business

Accurate IT Recycling Services has one primary focus: landfill diversion for electronics. In addition to being ISO 14001 and R2 certified, they implement internal actions to reduce their climate footprint. They posted a list of their GreenSpot commitments for employees to see, encourage their employees to join GreenSpot, and set time aside each staff meeting to talk about their sustainable progress. To conserve and protect water they installed rain barrels, closely monitor water bills (drastic fluctuations can indicate a leak), keep receiving areas and dumpsters clear of litter by periodically sweeping the area, and ensuring each waste receptacle has a tight-fitting lid.

Conserving energy is crucial for any company to be more sustainable, that is why Accurate IT has converted all their lights to LEDs, perform regular inspections of the HVAC system to assure it is running smoothly, and have performed an energy audit using the results to take additional steps to use less energy.

Reducing waste and greening their transportation round out their sustainability actions. They are a zero-landfill facility, purchased an electric car, certified Ohio Green Fleet, combine trips, provide green driving tips to employees, have a no-idling policy, have onsite shower facilities, and installed a bike rack for their employees. They work with their clients to go zero-waste.





Category: Small Business

CeraNet invests considerable time and money to minimize environmental impact and improve energy efficiencies for their clients as well as take steps to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions. CeraNet worked with AEP data center program to roll out additional cloud computing resources that helped their clients save 287,000 kw hours of energy for the first half of 2020. This brings their total to over 1.3 MW of ongoing power conservation a year. This is equal to emissions of burning 106,059 gallons of gasoline per year (www.epa.gov). In 2020 CeraNet adjusted and initiated a work-from-home program and remote meetings using technology that eliminated an estimated 85,000 miles driven by employees in 2020. They anticipate over 100,000 in 2021. Additionally they adjusted the thermostat up during the summer months to save more energy.

In order to reduce waste, CeraNet recycled more than 650 servers and six truckloads of networking accessories in 2020. Instead of buying a whole new server, they upgrade the components when possible.

CeraNet performs regular energy and waste audits, donates furniture and equipment to schools and other organizations, and purchases recycled office supplies. They even reuse holiday decorations to reduce waste and save money.

