



2022 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 2022 GreenSpotLight awards are being presented to three outstanding businesses.

Congratulations...

hikma.

business interiors
King

MAD
SCIENTIST
ASSOCIATES LLC

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, Twitter [@GreenSpotCbus](https://twitter.com/GreenSpotCbus), and Instagram [ColumbusGreenSpot](https://www.instagram.com/ColumbusGreenSpot)

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR



Category: Large Business

Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA takes sustainability seriously by incorporating it at every level of operations. In order to conserve water, the wastewater containing corrosive cleaning chemicals from plant processes are neutralized, preventing ~38 gallons of corrosive chemical pollution per day. Converted the purified water system to send spent water to assist with the cooling tower efficiency, thus reducing the amount wastewater discharge and fresh water use in the cooling towers by ~10 million gallons. A system is in place to repurpose captured rainwater to supply water to greenspace throughout the campus.

To conserve energy, Hikma replaced the lights to LEDs, installed motion-sensor timed lights in key areas. This saves about 440,000 kW per year. They have also installed white roofing to conserve energy, resulting in a savings of ~60,000 kWh per year. A steam trap monitoring system was installed to reduce wasted energy with a resulted ~1,600 MMBtu in natural gas savings per year. The site converted two large air handling units to recirculate air instead of using 100% outside air, reducing energy required for heating and cooling by an annual savings in natural gas of ~4,500 MMBtu.

Traveling green is important to Hikma, that is why they installed six charging ports and have electric vehicles.

To reduce waste they dispose of greases and sugars in anaerobic digestion. The methane gas from the process is converted into compressed natural gas which operates city sanitary landfill trucks in Columbus, and the methane gas is sent back to the gas company to heat homes. There is currently very little to no cost for this process in partnership with WaterWorks. Office recycling has been in place for many years.



King business interiors

Category: Medium Business

King Business Interiors champions sustainability through recycling initiatives, diverting products from landfills, and staff/ facility engagement, all to better the environment. In coordination with their landlord, they have high efficiency toilets and urinals and monitor water consumption; if it is too high, they get notified. Through their monthly newsletter, they provide tips to help employees make more sustainable choices at home and at work. In an effort to reduce their carbon footprint, King embraces the ability to not only work from home but work from anywhere. This reduces energy consumption and emissions from transportation. They use web-based meetings to cut down on in-person meetings. In the past year they have replaced a few vehicles, including a delivery van used for daily installations, to more fuel-efficient vehicles. They have installed a bike rack at their facility and encourage staff to bike when possible.

With furniture & flooring products as their core business – King developed a program that diverts furniture from the landfill and into the hands of local nonprofits in Columbus. Their “Connecting the Dots” helps connect the dots from their existing customers who are investing in new furniture to help distribute their gently used furniture to those in need.

King also recycles 100% of the cardboard, packaging plastics (#1 and #2), and steel that their vendors ship their products in. Skids that are used to store product in the warehouse, are recycled and given to a local company that shred them and turns them into mulch at the end of their life cycle.

To reduce, reuse, recycle, King performed a waste audit. As a result, they established an office recycling program, waste tracking, furniture donation program, buy supplies made with recycled materials, and provide reusable dishware instead of disposable. They also work with a local coffee company that installed refillable cold brew kegs that help reduce Keurig and filter usage. They have used the GreenSpot program as a road map to operate in a more sustainable manner.





Category: Small Business

MAD Scientist Associates (MAD) focuses on incorporating sustainability into every aspect of their environmental consulting business. They work with local distributors for supplies and equipment, use the smallest field vehicles available for field work, and plan virtual meetings when possible to reduce excess travel and decrease their carbon footprint.

In the office, they are converting all the lights to LEDs, installed motion sensors in high traffic areas, participate in the Lights Out Ohio program, and purchase EnergyStar labeled equipment. They chose to use solar batteries for game cameras and rechargeable batteries for sampling equipment as possible. When not feasible, they recycle batteries and any electronics that no longer work. Despite not owning their building, they have worked with the building manager to plant native, drought-resistant vegetation in the landscaping and only water them as needed. To further conserve and protect water, MAD encourages staff to report leaks and have had more energy-efficient furnaces installed. Whether conserving water or energy, they regularly give tips to their staff to live more sustainably and to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

In order to reduce their waste footprint, MAD habitually recycles paper and plastic as well as collects food scraps from the office to turn waste into compost. They reuse dishware, and plant containers for future planting projects. This has resulted in more than 570 pounds of waste in 2021 being diverted from the landfill.

MAD values community engagement, and that is why they host or participate in many environmental-focused outreach events every year. MAD encourages their staff to serve on boards of Ohio nonprofits like Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed, Environmental Education Council of Ohio, and the Ohio Wetlands Association to help make a difference beyond their organization.

