



Goal 4: Raise Baltimore's profile as a forward-thinking, green city

Highlighting Baltimore's sustainability achievements helps to attract forward-thinking investors, businesses, and residents who are drawn to the quality of life and opportunity provided by a sustainable city.

KEY FACTS AND RELATED EFFORTS

- * The Baltimore City Council adopted the **Baltimore Sustainability Plan as ordinance** in March 2009. The Plan articulates 29 goals toward improving Baltimore and is designed as a resource to help guide actions and decisions in ways that benefit people, the economy, and the environment. The Plan has been nationally recognized for its comprehensiveness, broad applicability, and extensive public engagement process.
- * The **University of Maryland Medical System** won the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Trailblazer Award for leadership in advancing sustainability practices in their daily operations. The 2009 award recognized UMMS's establishment of a University Farmers' Market which helped improve the availability of fresh, locally grown food to employees, patients, and area residents.
- * The 2009 **Baltimore Running Festival**, attended by over 20,000 participants from all 50 states and 44 countries, made great strides to be a green event. Recycling and composting systems were implemented throughout the event, carbon offsets were purchased for event operation greenhouse gas emissions, and trees were planted along the race route. In ten years, the marathon has transformed from a local race to a world-class event and an opportunity to showcase Baltimore and its commitment to sustainability.
- * The **National Aquarium** in Baltimore's Inner Harbor was recognized by Smart CEO Magazine for exceptional green business practices in 2009.
- * The **Baltimore Convention Center** is one of a growing number of large convention facilities across the United States to go green. The facility has initiated a green cleaning program, a substantial recycling program, energy-saving initiatives, a composting program, and a catering program using locally sourced food. Future initiatives include transforming the center's outdoor terrace into a green space and redesigning the water system to promote conservation.

GREEN ECONOMY

BALTIMORE'S 2008 SUSTAINLANE RANKINGS

CITY RANK	CATEGORY
5th out of 50	Green Economy
9th out of 50	City Commuting
9th out of 50	City Innovation
11th out of 50	Knowledge Base
12th out of 50	Solid Waste Diversion
13th out of 50	Metro Transit Ridership
15th out of 50	Housing Affordability
15th out of 50	Water Supply
17th out of 50	Local Food & Agriculture
18th out of 50	Planning & Land Use
18th out of 50	Green Building
19th out of 50	Water Quality

*Source: Sustainlane

2 STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

- Consider Baltimore's green amenities when planning your association's upcoming event or convention
- Take Baltimore's Local Action Challenge through SustainLane (www.sustainlane.com)

« SustainLane researches best practices in urban sustainability and ranks cities throughout the country on a variety of factors. Baltimore ranked in the top 10 most sustainable cities nationally in 2008, the most recent rankings. This graph shows how Baltimore stacked up against other cities in some of the categories.