



4825 Cordell Ave., Ste 200  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
240.396.2440  
[www.bethesdagreen.org](http://www.bethesdagreen.org)

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, October 1, 2009

Contact:  
Dave Heffernan  
301-767-7222  
[dvheffernan@bethesdagreen.org](mailto:dvheffernan@bethesdagreen.org)

**Bethesda Green Opens New Education Center and Green Business Incubator**  
*Gov. O'Malley Declares October 1<sup>st</sup> Bethesda Green Business Incubator Day*

Bethesda, MD – Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley declared October 1<sup>st</sup> Bethesda Green Business Incubator Day in recognition of Bethesda Green launching its new Education Center and Green Business Incubator in downtown Bethesda.

The launch includes a three-day Open House, beginning with a 10:30 a.m. outdoor ribbon-cutting ceremony, led by Montgomery County Executive Isiah (Ike) Leggett and other dignitaries, at the corner of Woodmont and Cordell Avenues, where the Center is located. The Open House will showcase local green products and services and introduce Bethesda Green's first incubator companies, which expect to bring high-quality green jobs and services to the region.

The newly renovated 3,000 square-foot headquarters for Bethesda Green was donated by Chevy Chase Bank, a division of Capital One, N.A. The recent renovation was donated in its entirety through the generosity of the Donohoe Construction Company and their subcontractors.

Created just over a year ago by Seth Goldman of Honest Tea, and Montgomery County At-Large Council Member George Leventhal, Bethesda Green has engaged the efforts of hundreds of community and business volunteers during its inaugural year. Accomplishments include installing 15 recycling bins throughout downtown Bethesda, working with restaurants to convert waste grease into biodiesel, and convening numerous seminars, meetings and working groups to educate and address residents on

-more-



4825 Cordell Ave., Ste 200  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
240.396.2440  
[www.bethesdagreen.org](http://www.bethesdagreen.org)

-page two-

environmental issues. Bethesda Green also worked with the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection to host e-cycling days at Whitman and Bethesda-Chevy Chase High Schools, collecting more than 180,000 pounds of used electronic equipment.

“Bethesda Green’s success in mobilizing thousands of residents, whether in recycling bottles and computers or educating others, is an important step toward creating a more sustainable community,” Goldman said. “Launching the Green Business Incubator takes our efforts up a notch – by helping seed the next generation of green entrepreneurs.”

In cooperation with the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development the incubator will provide workspace and support for several start-up companies focused on sustainable solutions, including a rain barrel manufacturer, two software companies, a community-supported agriculture (CSA) farm, and an energy cooperative.

“We’re excited that Bethesda Green has made such an impact in such a short amount of time,” said Leventhal. “Not only is the organization making Montgomery County a healthier and greener place to live and work, but the incubator will create more economic opportunities as well.”

“The opening of our new Center marks a huge step forward for us,” said Bethesda Green Executive Director Dave Feldman. “We are thankful to Chevy Chase/Capital One for providing us with a permanent home and to the volunteers and sponsors who worked tirelessly in a short period of time to make this Open House happen.”

Montgomery County District 1 Council Member Roger Berliner, a Bethesda Green Board member, said, “Bethesda Green is helping lead the way toward a green economy and a green economic workforce in Montgomery County. It is a great asset to our business and environmental communities.”

#### About Bethesda Green

Through the collaborative efforts of businesses, government and residents, Bethesda Green serves as a catalyst and trusted resource in building a dynamic model community for sustainable living and economic growth.

###