

## Vote Green; Here's Why ...

*The two-party system is The Problem.*

- The 2-party system is the main cause of the rightward march in U.S. politics over the last 25+ years.
- The 2-party system created and delivered George W. Bush.

*"Lesser-of-two-evils" and "short-term" strategies only bring long-term evil.*

- The "lesser" is still evil.
- This has been a *long-term* strategy (since at least Ronald Reagan's election in 1980), with no end in sight. Do you want to be in the same boat in 2008? 2012? 2016? ...

*Third parties have always been — and still are — The Solution ...*

... providing the source of positive reforms: abolition; child labor laws and the 40-hour workweek; women's suffrage; the right to form unions; the creation of social security; environmental, worker, and consumer protections ... the list goes on and on!

*The Green Party: unbought and unbossed.*

Democrats and Republicans are corporate funded and of necessity represent corporate interests, not the people's interests.

*Because you care ...*

About social justice, civil rights, poverty, health care, and education. About the environment, about peace, about freedom. *About the future.*

## The Ten Key Values of the Greens

### 1. Grassroots Democracy

We work to increase public participation at every level of government and to ensure that our elected officials are fully accountable.

### 2. Social Justice

We consciously confront in ourselves, our organizations, and society at large, barriers such as racism and class oppression, sexism and homophobia, ageism and disability, which deny fair treatment and equal justice.

### 3. Ecological Wisdom

We support a sustainable society that uses resources in such a way that future generations will benefit and not suffer from the practices of our generation.

### 4. Non-Violence

It is essential that we develop effective alternatives to society's current patterns of violence. We promote non-violent methods to oppose practices and policies with which we disagree and will guide our actions toward lasting personal, community, and global peace.

### 5. Decentralization

Centralization of wealth and power contributes to social and economic injustice, environmental destruction, and militarization. We support a restructuring away from a system that is controlled by and mostly benefits the powerful few to a democratic, less bureaucratic system.

### 6. Community-Based Economics and Economic Justice

It is essential to create a vibrant and sustainable economic system that provides jobs and a decent standard of living for all people while maintaining a healthy ecological balance.

### 7. Feminism and Gender Equity

We call for the replacement of the cultural ethics of domination and control with cooperative ways of interacting that respect differences of opinion and gender. The process that determines our decisions and actions is as important as achieving the outcome we want.

### 8. Respect for Diversity

We believe that the many diverse elements of society should be reflected in our organizations, decision-making bodies, and leadership roles. We acknowledge and encourage respect for other life forms than our own and the preservation of biodiversity.

### 9. Personal and Global Responsibility

We encourage individuals to act to improve their personal well-being and, at the same time, to enhance ecological balance and social harmony. We seek to join with people and organizations around the world to foster peace, economic justice, and the health of the planet.

### 10. Future Focus and Sustainability

Our actions and policies should be motivated by long-term goals. Economic development, new technologies, and fiscal policies must be responsible to future generations who will inherit the results of our actions.

## Recommended Reading

*Ralph's Revolt: The Case for Joining Nader's Rebellion*, by Greg Bates. Common Courage Press: Monroe, ME. 2004. 175 pp.

*The Green Alternative: Creating an Ecological Future*, by Brian Tokar. New Society Publishers: Philadelphia, PA. 1992. 183 pp.

# Go Green!

## Register Green; Here's Why ...

**#1.** Party affiliation is like a vote, only more powerful and cumulative. Votes disappear after each election, and unlike voting, party affiliation is verifiable, so you know it will be counted.

**#2.** Registering as a Green makes a clear and effective political statement and shows disapproval of politics as usual. The more people register as Green, the more other parties and the media will take our issues seriously. You can still vote for any candidate in a general election, while affiliating with a party that represents your values — rather than the lesser of two evils.

**#3.** The Green Party does not accept money from corporations.

**#4.** We need 1% of registered voters, about 31,000, to affiliate as Green in Maryland to maintain ballot status and avoid having to repeatedly collect thousands of signatures. As of December 31, 2004, we number 7,566 (1,515 in Baltimore City).

## County Election Boards

Find your county contact info from the official State of Maryland Board of Elections at [http://www.elections.state.md.us/citizens/county\\_boards.html](http://www.elections.state.md.us/citizens/county_boards.html) or contact your local Green Party chapter.

## Contact the Green Party

Montgomery Greens  
P.O. Box 342423  
Bethesda, MD 20827-2423  
<http://www.mdgreens.org/montgomery/>  
E-mail: [mcgreenparty@verizon.net](mailto:mcgreenparty@verizon.net)

Prince George's County/Greenbelt  
Anja and John Bull  
(301) 486-0744  
E-mail: [goveggie00@hotmail.com](mailto:goveggie00@hotmail.com)

Mount Rainier/Hyattsville, Maryland  
Andrew Agostinelli  
(301) 887-0920  
E-mail: [andrewagos@aol.com](mailto:andrewagos@aol.com)

Howard County Green Party  
<http://www.howardgreens.org/>  
(301) 596-0978  
E-mail: [mikeratcliffe@comcast.net](mailto:mikeratcliffe@comcast.net)

Southern Maryland Greens  
PO Box 912  
Hollywood, MD 20636  
<http://www.mdgreens.org/southern/>  
E-mail: [chrishwf@yahoo.com](mailto:chrishwf@yahoo.com)

Baltimore City Greens  
1443 Gorsuch Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
(410) 662-8169  
<http://www.baltimoregreens.org/>  
E-mail: [office@baltimoregreens.org](mailto:office@baltimoregreens.org)

Baltimore County Greens  
Dave Goldsmith  
10913 Summit Ave.  
Woodstock, MD 21163  
410-480-5256  
<http://www.baltimorecountygreens.org/main.htm>  
E-mail: [dave@baltimorecountygreens.org](mailto:dave@baltimorecountygreens.org)

Green Party, State of Maryland  
<http://www.mdgreens.org/>

Green Party U.S.A.  
PO Box 57065  
Washington, DC 20037  
<http://www.gpus.org/>  
(202) 319-7191 or 866-41GREEN

# Why Register Green?

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