

2016 Illinois Governor's Sustainability Award Winner

THE CLARKE GROUP



Clarke is a global environmental products and services company. Clarke's mission is to make

communities around the world more livable, safe, and comfortable. They do this by pioneering, developing, and delivering environmentally responsible public health mosquito control and aquatic services to help prevent disease, control nuisances, and create healthy waterways.

SUSTAINABILITY — FROM JOURNEY TO COMPANY CULTURE

Clarke's sustainability journey began in 2008 when J. Lyell Clarke, the company's president and CEO, invited the entire company to envision a more purpose-driven Clarke. That invitation was a catalyst for the company's first set of sustainability goals and the formation of organizational processes and structure specifically designed to embed sustainability into the company's DNA.

In 2015, Clarke introduced their second set of sustainability goals. These new goals were designed to ensure continuous improvements in areas where they had already begun work and to focus on opportunities to have a greater impact beyond their internal operations. Clarke's 2020 sustainability goals include:

- Carbon neutrality through a 25% emission reduction and carbon sequestration projects
- Source 10% of energy needs from on-site renewable energy production
- Reduce waste stream by 25%
- Recycle or re-purpose 90% of all operational waste
- Donate 1% of annual revenue from the sale of Next Generation products and services to environmental causes
- Donate an average of 10 hours of volunteer time per employee per year

"We recognize that every action we take, big or small, can directly impact the environment and significantly affect future generations."

J. Lyell Clarke, III
President & CEO

The sustainability goals influence every aspect of their business — from product development to supply chain management, the vehicles they drive, the buildings they work in, and the design of their health and wellness programs. Since the beginning of their journey, they have published seven sustainability reports. Recent reports follow the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) guidelines ensuring adherence to international standards.



With such a comprehensive approach to sustainability, it has become embedded in the Clarke culture. Sustainability has energized and empowered employees to develop programs and policies that improve operational efficiencies, clarify brand and mission, foster greater innovation, and change the way that they engage with customers, the community, and business partners.

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KEY STATISTICS

150 metric tons CO ₂ equivalent reduced
3,717 hours in paid volunteer work by employees
84 percent of waste recycled
100 kilowatts of solar power installed
161,000 dollars awarded to non-profit organizations

ABOUT THE CLARKE GROUP

Established: **1946**

Location: **675 Sidwell Court, St. Charles, IL**

of employees: **160**

Produces: **Public health mosquito control products and aquatic services**

NAICS code: **325320**

Website: **www.clarke.com**

ABOUT THE ILLINOIS GOVERNOR'S SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Since 1987, ISTC has presented the Illinois Sustainability Awards to organizations in the state that have demonstrated a commitment to sustaining our environmental and economic health.

Any Illinois public or private organization is eligible to apply.

Find out more at:
istc.illinois.edu/istcawards,
or, email: istc-info@illinois.edu



TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

A breakdown of strategies and technologies that enabled The Clarke Group to increase efficiency and reduce their environmental impact.

Energy Use

- ✓ Consolidated facilities to lower energy footprint
- ✓ Installed on-site renewable energy systems
- ✓ Installed electric vehicle charging stations
- ✓ Purchased Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

Waste Strategies

- ✓ Tracked and reported monthly facility-to-facility waste performance
- ✓ Trained all employees in zero waste programs

Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Surveyed internal and external stakeholders for a materiality assessment
- ✓ Engaged employees to volunteer in local communities
- ✓ Initiated wellness programs for employees

ABOUT ISTC

The Illinois Sustainable Technology Center is a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

ISTC's mission is to encourage and assist citizens, businesses and government agencies to prevent pollution, conserve natural resources and reduce waste to protect human health and the environment of Illinois and beyond. Visit our website at: istc.illinois.edu

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

In 2014, the company took occupancy of a new headquarters facility in St. Charles, IL. The move was to improve efficiency by combining three facilities into a renovated, single story, 27,000 square foot building. Designed and renovated to LEED Silver standards, the facility's open floor plan and glass south-facing façade optimizes the use of natural light. One hundred high efficiency T5 fluorescent fixtures replaced 225 existing fluorescent box lights. White walls, ceiling, and work surfaces reflect rather than absorb the sunlight. Installed solar light tubes bring in natural light from above.

The drop ceiling tiles were removed to increase air flow and minimize HVAC needs while the open floor plan allows for improved air flow throughout the work space.

After one full year of data, they were able to measure the impact of the facility project. For 2015, the Clarke campus saw a 28.4% reduction in electricity and a 35.6% reduction in natural gas consumption over prior operations with three separate buildings. This correlates to a reduction in carbon emissions of 113 metric tons and financial savings of \$18,700 in 2015.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

In order to meet the goal of generating 20% of their electric consumption from on-site renewable energy, the company designed a distributed system to be employed throughout the Clarke Campus. The 100KW solar array system consists of three elements: solar modules on the roof, a solar shade canopy over the south-facing façade of the building, and a solar module vehicle canopy over an eight-bay electric vehicle charging station.



The solar project, completed in the fall of 2015, employs a total of 348 solar panel modules, capable of generating 131,800 kWh of electric power per year for the facility. This annual production is approximately 20% of the facility's electricity needs, which is approximately 8% of the company's total electricity consumption. Annually, the array is projected to reduce carbon emissions by 85.93 metric tons per year.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Clarke employees spent 3,717 hours of paid time to volunteer in the community, valued at \$110,918 of payroll in 2015. On the annual Day of Caring, all Clarke offices around the world close to engage in environmental volunteer projects. In 2015, 179 Illinois employees spent the day planting, mulching, removing fences, de-littering, and removing invasive species plants at two forest preserve locations in Kane and DuPage counties.

Introduced in 2015, Clarke's "One for Tomorrow" program recognizes and supports non-profit organizations that are striving to restore and/or preserve the environment, wildlife, and food production. The idea for the program was developed by Clarke employees as a way to demonstrate that small- to medium-sized companies can make a difference in the world. One percent of annual revenues from Clarke's Next Generation products and services fund the program.

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