

Eco-focused Clifton Businesses

By Margaret Fisher

Three businesses opened in Clifton last year whose primary focus is on preserving our environment and the critters it supports.

If the lifestyle of some of these critters is clashing with your own, consider calling K2C Wildlife Encounters, LLC. Clifton resident Mark Khosravi had for years been rescuing snakes from nervous homeowners, relocating them safely. In 2021, he teamed up with Prince William resident and fellow Lake Braddock teacher Bonnie Keller to create an official business, which charges a nominal fee for their services. Interest has been high, and they now have four other volunteers working with them. They are educators first and wildlife control operators second, approaching each situation with both the environment and safety in mind.

Robin Moser opened Virginia Mercantile in the Town of Clifton in 2021 to help people find products for a sustainable home. She has been pleased to note a growing market for plastic-free goods, including soaps, laundry detergent strips, bar shampoo and dish detergent, and refills of liquid dish detergent, all-purpose cleaner, and hand soap. Anyone browsing through the store is sure to find many new ideas for minimizing waste in general. For example, do you really need a can of shaving cream when instead you could buy an old-fashioned shaving brush, bowl and soap? The store also sells many locally-sourced gifts.

We all know that traditional recycling methods leave a lot to be desired. The big recycling plants only accept a small fraction of our waste. Ed Ehlers set out in 2021 to solve that problem for residents of Greater Clifton. His position is that many of those discarded objects are not "waste" but rather valuable resources that should be put back into the product stream. Resource Recovery Project provides a "Big Green Bag" in which you can put clean, dry objects such as batteries, empty plastic take-out containers, fabric...anything that fits in the bag and is not liquid or hazardous. Ed sorts the contents by hand and finds places that can use them, whenever possible.

The pandemic notwithstanding, the year 2021 was a big one for Clifton residents who want to preserve the natural beauty of this area and of the planet in general. Apologies if there are other companies we have not heard about yet! We would be happy to add you to the Wild About Clifton website WildAboutClifton.org/clifton-businesses.

Resource
Recovery
Project
Photo ~ Ed Ehlers



Robin Moser
Photo ~ Stephanie Ascari

Ed Ehlers
Photo ~ Lisa Gables



Bonnie Keller & Mark Khosravi
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