

GREEN PRO BONO

Connecting Environmental Nonprofits and Social Entrepreneurs with Legal Professionals

MISSION AND VISION

MISSION

Green Pro Bono connects climate-focused nonprofits and entrepreneurs with pro bono legal services to help them launch, sustain, and scale their work. By removing legal barriers and strengthening organizational foundations, Green Pro Bono supports mission-driven leaders to deliver bold climate solutions, build community resilience, and drive systems change.

VISION

A pro bono legal ecosystem that advances community-driven climate solutions

WHAT WE DO

Green Pro Bono is a legal services nonprofit and pro bono clearinghouse. We provide opportunities for pro bono legal assistance to climate entrepreneurs and environmental nonprofits who otherwise cannot afford the legal help they need to establish, maintain and grow their organizations.

Access to legal advice is a defining challenge for sustainability-focused nonprofits and startups. The lack of effective support hinders innovation on urgent environmental issues. Green Pro Bono fills this critical gap by connecting our clients with top legal advice and services. Through our network of 330+ volunteer lawyers and law firms, we work to make sure that each match is a perfect fit for our client's needs.

OUR PROCESS

The GPB process begins when a potential client is introduced to our team through partnership channels, such as incubator programs and universities, or through our website. After receiving a request for pro bono legal services, our team, made up of bar attorneys, conducts an intake meeting with the organization to help them define their legal needs and assure the readiness of their request.

Following this due diligence meeting, if the client is at the right stage to receive assistance, we distribute their legal request to our robust network of law firms and lawyers, facilitate a matching process and find a best-fit legal volunteer.

Once a lawyer or law firm has agreed to represent a client and issued an engagement letter, we schedule and host an introductory video call to clarify the scope of services and discuss next steps. From there, it is up to the client and their pro bono attorney to manage the relationship, and Green Pro Bono stays available to reengage with the client on any follow-up requests.

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT

- **Pacto Medical**, a company developing a compact syringe that reduces the environmental impact of single-use syringes by 40%, was matched with *Duane Morris* to help them file a patent.
- **Freedom Cups**, a social enterprise bringing sustainable menstrual cups into the hands of women and girls in underprivileged communities, was matched with *Burr Forman* for intellectual property advice.
- **Grown in Haiti**, a nonprofit planting trees, restoring degraded soil, and sharing regenerative knowledge across rural Haiti, was matched with *Offit Kurman* to file for 501(c)(3) status.

SECTORS WE IMPACT

- Renewable Energy
- Sustainable Manufacturing
- Land & Ocean Conservation
- Education
- Green Jobs Creation
- Sustainable Construction
- Urban Farming and Agriculture
- Public Health
- Arts & Culture

A WORD OF GRATITUDE FROM A GREEN PRO BONO CLIENT:

"Green Pro Bono was invaluable in getting my entity off the ground. They connected me with amazing counsel at Ellis George Cipollone (ECG), a nationally recognized law firm. I am so fortunate to have the opportunity to work with ECG. They have been wonderful to work with and provided me with critical legal advise on a range of topics related to protection of intellectual property and even offered to support in other areas. I could not be happier with, or more thankful for, Green Pro Bono and ECG."

*-Laura Ferris,
GREENSHOT*

OUR IMPACT

THE NUMBERS

275+

nonprofits and social enterprises served

\$3.3+ million

in pro bono legal services provided

330+

law firms and lawyers in our network

LEGAL SERVICES WE SUPPORT

With the skills of our attorney network, Green Pro Bono supports a diverse array of legal needs for climate-focused organizations, including:

- *Entity Formation*
- *Corporate Advice*
- *Regulatory Research*
- *Partnership Agreements*
- *Founders Agreements*
- *Employment Contracts*
- *Employee Handbooks*
- *Customer Contracts*
- *MOUs*
- *NDAs*
- *Patents*
- *Trademarks and Copyrights*
- *Privacy Policies*
- *Terms and Conditions*
- *SAFE Agreements*
- *Land Donations*
- *Solar Lease Arrangements*
- *Lease Review*
- *Purchase and Sale Agreements*

Green Pro Bono works with each client to identify their unique legal needs. We are committed to distributing novel requests, and the above list is non-exhaustive.

Since our founding, Green Pro Bono has provided critical legal support valuing over \$3.3 million to a diverse array of environmental startups, small businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations. Our services have removed the legal roadblocks necessary for our clients to pursue a variety of valuable environmental projects, including:

- Reforesting critical landscapes
- Reducing food waste and packaging
- Converting vacant urban lots into farms and pollinator gardens
- Lowering carbon emissions through tech
- Creating environmental education resources
- Supporting indigenous land stewardship
- Developing sustainable medical products
- Creating climate change documentaries

We maximize our impact through strategic partnerships and efficient operations. By leveraging the expertise of our network of legal professionals, operating out of a virtual office and building a community of dedicated volunteers, Green Pro Bono is able to support a broad range of organizations and programs with limited resources.

Demand for our services is growing at an exponential rate, and in the past year alone, we have more than doubled our client matches.

PROGRAMS

General Matching Program: Our core program connects environmental nonprofits, social enterprises, and community organizations across industries with pro bono attorneys suited to their needs. This general matching service supports a broad range of climate and sustainability sectors.

GreenEdge Accelerator: The GreenEdge Accelerator (in partnership with Boston Impact Initiative and MassCEC) supports small businesses in Massachusetts's clean energy sector, including many MBEs operating in Gateway Cities with capacity building and technical assistance. Green Pro Bono provides legal matchmaking for GreenEdge Accelerator participants, ensuring these entrepreneurs can access pro bono legal counsel as they scale their ventures.

Climate Pro Bono Bootcamp: The Climate Pro Bono Bootcamp (in partnership with Offit Kurman and the planetary lawyer project) is an annual two-day virtual conference that trains and mobilizes attorneys in climate-focused pro bono work. Held around Earth Day, this free bootcamp equips lawyers across the globe with the knowledge and inspiration to volunteer their legal skills for the planet.

OUR TEAM



GET INVOLVED

Want to help support Green Pro Bono's mission?

Please consider making a donation at www.greenprobono.org