



TENNESSEE GREEN STAR PARTNERSHIP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

Clayton Savannah - Savannah, TN



By: Caleb Powell

Clayton Savannah is located in Savannah, TN, next to the Hardin County Airport. The facility produces manufactured and modular homes ranging from 800 sqft to 2500 sqft. Clayton Homes is headquartered in Maryville, TN and has 8 separate Clayton home-building facilities in Tennessee. Clayton is a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary that is dedicated to innovation and providing affordable, quality built homes across America. The Savannah facility delivers its products to eleven different states with Louisiana being the largest buyer of Clayton Savannah homes.

Handing out the first set of home keys in 1956, Jim Clayton founded Clayton Homes and built it into the country's largest producer and seller of manufactured housing. Clayton continues to lead the nation's housing industry by providing an opportunity for affordable homeownership, implementation of sustainable practices, and giving back to the community. The Savannah facility consists of four main buildings sitting on 30 acres with an additional 11 acres across the street.

In 2018, Clayton Homes hired a corporate environmental manager after all of the home-building facilities achieved ISO 14001 certification. The different sites now share lessons learned and best practices from each specific location. The Savannah location has been tirelessly working to improve their efficiency and become better environmental stewards. Last year the facility diverted 2,793 tons of waste from the landfill, reduced volatile organic compound (VOCs) emissions by 19%, and replaced all of the incandescent and compact fluorescent lighting, in the facility and the manufactured homes, to LEDs. Excess building waste is minimized by having exact dimensions and measurements for the building materials. The vinyl siding scraps are sent back to the manufacturer and turned into new siding, making the material a true life cycle product. The process of manufacturing a home uses minimal amounts of water, but the Savannah facility goes above and beyond by using waterless urinals throughout the plant.

FEATURED THIS MONTH:

- Established 1984
- Employs 250
- Member since 2019

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Clayton occupies about 50% of the manufactured home market.
- The Savannah site builds on average 6 homes a day.



The facility is regulated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and all of the homes manufactured have been Energy Star® certified since 2010. The Savannah site was just recognized by the EPA and received their 2019 Energy Star Certified Homes Market Leader Award, which only 18 of Clayton's 41 home building facilities have received.

Clayton Savannah is committed to developing a relationship with the community in which its employees live and work; whether that is through volunteer work, sponsorships, or simply providing a work setting that promotes a cleaner, healthier, and safer environment. This is evident through the amount of engagement that the plant and its employees have with the community. Using scrap material from the manufacturing process, Clayton Savannah staff built a house for the City of Savannah's Christmas events. Santa and Mrs. Clause inhabit the home during the parade and other downtown events. The facility also works with the Hardin County High School Co-Op Program where students earn a wage while working and learning a trade – in many cases getting hired permanently right out of high school. The facility takes part in the American Red Cross Blood Drive and assists with the Hardin County Waste Cleanup. Aside from volunteering, the facility does a tremendous job of supporting helpful organizations. Over the last year, Clayton Savannah raised more than \$30,000 for organizations such as: Relay for Life, Country Christmas, Coats for Kids, St. Jude – Warrior Dash, Our Daily Bread Food Pantry, and the Breast Cancer Research Fund.

As soon as you walk into the Savannah facility, it is evident that the employees enjoy what they do and that the management cares about their employees. The Savannah location leads by example as the first Clayton facility to join the Tennessee Green Star Partnership (TGSP).

The [Tennessee Materials Marketplace](#) is a collaboration between industries, facilitated by an interactive online materials exchange, to recycle, repurpose, and return material discards back to Tennessee's economy. Clayton Savannah learned of the marketplace initiative through its membership in the Tennessee Green Star Partnership.



"We build with sustainability in mind. Clayton is committed to building green. We believe in building our homes in a controlled environment free from the outside elements where we can control waste and energy usage levels. We recycle cardboard, plastic, carpet padding, vinyl siding, and scrap wood."

-Clayton's Environmental Commitment Statement



The [Tennessee Green Star Partnership](#) is a voluntary environmental leadership program designed to recognize industries in the state that are committed to sustainable practices. If you are interested in joining Clayton Savannah and other sustainable industries in Tennessee by becoming a member, please contact us.