



Maryland
Green Registry
MEMBER

The Maryland Green Registry promotes and recognizes sustainable practices at organizations of all types and sizes. Members agree to share at least five environmental practices and one measurable result while striving to continually improve their environmental performance.

ChristianaCare Union Hospital



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Non-Profit Healthcare Organization
Member since December 2009

Management and Leadership

Environmental Team

The Union Hospital of Cecil County Green Health Initiative team consists of employees from a variety of settings throughout the hospital. The team meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month with a shared commitment to an environmentally friendly philosophy combined with safe health practices to ensure a healthy community.

Environmental Policy Statement

Union Hospital is committed to providing a safe, healthy, environmentally friendly facility for patients, visitors and staff while being good stewards of the environment within Cecil County.

Annual Environmental Goals

The goals established by Union Hospital's Green Health Initiative reflect the diversity of the positions that the group members hold throughout the hospital. Listed below are the categories for which goals have been established and one example of a specific goal for each category:

Computers and Electronics

Goal: Recycle outdated computers/electronics as well as toner cartridges.

Status: Fully Implemented

Facilities and Environmental Services

Goal: Implement energy conservation (EPA Energy Star Program) “Last One Out, Turn it Out” program.

Status: Fully Implemented

Publicizing the Green Health Initiative and its Successes

Goal: Promote the progress of the Green Health Initiative through employee website access to a “Score Card” which provides updates on the status of the team’s goals.

Status: Fully Implemented

Environmentally Preferred Purchasing (EPP)

Goal: Environmental criteria will be included in all purchasing decisions.

Status: Fully Implemented

Recycling

Goal: Program established for single stream recycling.

Status: Fully Implemented

Regulated Medical Waste Reduction

Goal: Regulated medical waste (red Bag) reduction program established.

Status: Good progress, early stage efforts



Environmentally Preferable Procurement

The Hospital has approved an Environmentally Preferred purchasing policy to evaluate environmental impact of all purchasing. 85% of the chemicals utilized by the Environmental Services Department of Union Hospital have been converted to “Green Seal” certified products.

The Food and Nutrition Department of Union Hospital has established the following practices:

- *All foam products have been eliminated and either biodegradable or paper products are utilized.*
- *Whenever possible, “energy star” certified equipment is purchased.*
- *Local, sustainable food sources are utilized.*

The Facilities Department of Union Hospital has had a Maryland Pesticide Network assessment conducted on its pesticide usage throughout the campus. There will be follow-up to this assessment to identify environmentally friendly chemicals that can be utilized in this capacity.

Waste

Recycling

The Union Hospital Green Health Initiative has fully implemented a single stream waste recycling program. Currently the hospital recycles cans, glass, plastics, newspaper, cardboard and mixed paper. We also recycle electronic equipment and toner cartridges.

In order to promote a reduction in the volume of municipal waste produced by the hospital, a food waste recycling and food composting program has been fully implemented. Our food waste is being recycled to area farmers for feed for their livestock. We have on site composting to utilize with our landscaping program.

Energy

Energy Efficiency

Union hospital has fully implemented an energy conservation (EPA Energy Star) program. All light switches on the hospital campus have been labeled with a sticker stating, "Last One Out, turn it Out" and all hospital employees have been educated on the importance of turning these lights out when it is expected that they will be out for at least four hours.

Transportation

Employee Commute

The Union Hospital on-campus website has a "Commuters Blog" where employees can post their work commute information and connect with other employees who have an interest in carpooling.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and other Activities

- The Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) Healthy Food in Health Care (HFHC) Program awarded Holly Emmons, manager of Food and Nutrition Services, first place in the national Exemplary Food Service Professional Award. The award acknowledges achievement and leadership in sustainable health care food service operations.*

Profile Updated May 2013



Help build a greener, more sustainable Maryland through voluntary practices that reduce environmental impacts and save money.

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

