



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.

MedStar Harbor Hospital



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www.medstarharbor.org
Hospital/Healthcare
Member since August 2019

Management and Leadership



Environmental Team

Our Green Team merged with our Wellness Team to form the Green & Wellness Team. One of our combined efforts is to focus on integrating the benefits of time in nature for physical and mental wellbeing. Our teachings include therapeutic outdoor walks, meditation, and yoga.

The Green and Wellness Team meets monthly. It is an interdepartmental team that includes members from across the organization. The Vice President of Operations represents the Executive Leadership team as a member of the Green and Wellness Team and actively participates in monthly meetings and activities. Working closely with direct reports from Food and Nutrition, Facilities Management, Environmental Services, Clinical Engineering and Safety, Laboratory Services, Protective Services, and Pharmacy, the VP of Operations has the necessary knowledge base to lead change. Our Executive Leadership team receives periodic updates and reviews sustainable recommendations on a regular basis and seeks feedback from the hospital Board when necessary.



Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

It is the responsibility of all System Strategic Sourcing Managers to have environmental criteria included in all product agreements. This includes energy efficiency, water efficiency, excessive packaging, recycled content, chemical, waste minimization, and more. Here are some examples of the environmentally preferred products:

- *Has eliminated both PVC and DEHP in products such as breast pumps, enteral nutrition products, respiratory therapy products, and more.*

- *Close to 60 % of computers, monitors, and laptops as well as imaging equipment are EPEAT certified.*
- *For snow and icy conditions on our 25-acre campus, we transitioned to Ice Melt which is a natural alternative to salt. Ice Melt covers 65% more ground than rock salt, melts ice to -16°F, is non-toxic to fish, aquatic life and watersheds, is biodegradable, and does not promote algae blooms.*
- *During 2020, we renovated our conference center and purchased furniture according to green guidelines and installed LED lights. Of the total \$213,657 spent across the facility on furnishings in 2020, \$190,500 (89%) was on Green Guard certified purchases.*



Environmental Restoration or Community Environmental Projects

The Chesapeake Bay Trust awarded MedStar Harbor Hospital a \$35K planning grant and a \$70K design grant for a green infrastructure master plan. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources awarded MHH \$1.34 million to implement the plan. See details under “Stormwater Management” section below.

To further our Green Infrastructure Plan, which treats over five million gallons of stormwater/year, we replanted 540 ft² near the entrance of our Emergency Department with 320 native plants/shrubs of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. We installed educational signage to teach the importance of conservation landscaping to over 20,000 Associates, visitors, and community members that use our facility each year.

To sequester carbon, we expanded our tree canopy with 26 additional trees. As a typical hardwood tree can absorb as much as 48 pounds of carbon dioxide per year, this will amount to 1,248 pounds of carbon dioxide sequestered each year.

Waste



Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

- *MHH generates regulated medical waste well below the industry standard at of 6% of the total waste stream.*
- *Hosted a community Confidential Shred It event (\$850)*
- *Implemented double sided copying to reduce paper use.*
- *MHH purchased and used almost 1,000 less cases of copy paper in 2018 than we did in 2017.*
- *MHH has a program called New2U, which consists of taking furniture, office supplies, electronics, equipment, and some patient items (e.g. scales) and determining if they meet MedStar's standards and are compliant with regulation standards for care. If the items meet those standards, then the program will first offer to reprocess the item back in-house. If departments do not want to item, or if the item is not up to standards, then New2U will offer the item for sale to associates. The money made from the sale will then go to a special philanthropy fund, the same fund the toner recycling money goes into, and gets used in-house.*



Recycling

MHH recycled the following materials (in tons) in 2020:

<i>Cardboard</i>	<i>72.32</i>
<i>Batteries</i>	<i>0.75</i>
<i>Computers*</i>	<i>3.86</i>
<i>Fluorescent lamps</i>	<i>1.32</i>
<i>Ink jet and toner cartridges</i>	<i>0.896</i>
<i>Cooking oil</i>	<i>2.18</i>
<i>Paper</i>	<i>141.14</i>

** MHH proudly continued its award-winning recycling partnerships with [The Arc Baltimore](#) to help recycle electronics. The IT department diverted 2,388 pounds of electronics in FY18 via The Arc Baltimore.*



Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction

- Purchased 100% hand hygiene products free of triclosan or triclocarban.*
- Achieved 75% green spend on floor cleaners.*
- Utilize automatic scrubbing machines that use only water for floor cleaning*
- Utilize ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) technology for surface disinfection*
- Eliminated the use of the high-level disinfectant glutaraldehyde and moved to safer alternatives*
- Eliminated the use of the sterilant ethylene oxide (EtO)*
- Implemented an IPM program*

Energy



Energy Efficiency

Our plant infrastructure is processing through a 5-year modernization plan to replace 40+ year old boilers, hot water heaters, and cooling systems.

MHH achieved 8 'low-cost no-cost' measures for an estimated cost savings of \$118,523 associated with the following programs: energy efficient lighting, lighting vacancy controls, steam trap survey/replacement, sewer subtraction metering, and ice machine replacements. An energy field engineer is onsite monthly to perform an audit of the major energy consuming equipment and building automation system to develop a "punch list" of recommendations to improve energy performance. The next month they

are onsite, they will provide a status report of the punch list open items and provide new recommendations to further reduce energy consumption.

- *Kitchen, bathrooms, Simulation Training & Education Lab (SiTEL), and Orthopedic renovation projects were all equipped with 100% LED lighting.*
- *Installed LED retrofit kits in Dietary lot pole lights.*
- *Installed over 60 occupancy sensors last year.*
- *Replacing elevator motors and air handler equipment with VFDs.*
- *Replaced 75% of hospital roofs in 2018 with more energy efficient materials.*
- *Purchased a Diesel Bobcat utility vehicle to use when possible in place of the large pick-up truck.*

Water



Stormwater Management and Site Design

The Chesapeake Bay Trust awarded MedStar Harbor Hospital a \$35K planning grant and a \$70K design grant for a green infrastructure master plan. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources awarded MHH \$1.34 million to implement the plan.

The project consisted of the planting of 63 trees, removal of unnecessary impermeable surfaces, 14 rain gardens, which includes 9 bioretention systems. In all, 40K perennials and shrubs, native to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, were installed.

To bridge the relationship between healing and nature, an expansive healing garden was installed on the waterfront lawn. The project was completed in December 2019 with final education signs installed in spring of 2019.

The completed project will treat over 5 million gallons of stormwater each year. Our unique position on the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay, propelled the success of the project and our commitment to supporting our motto, "Healthy environments create healthier communities"

The Storm Water Management Program has enabled MedStar Harbor Hospital to build relationships by partnering with the community to host tours and educate other partners of the importance of the sustainability projects and their impact on the environment.

Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities



- *We achieved [Tree Campus Healthcare](#) recognition by The Arbor Day Foundation; signed a Letter of Intent with South Baltimore Gateway Partnership for the installation of a Living Shoreline; and are partnering with [Baltimore Tree Trust](#) to build an urban park on our campus within the Cherry Hill community.*

- *We have been awarded, nine years running, the [Partner for Change](#) award through Practice Greenhealth and presented our stormwater project at the Clean Med conference in 2020.*
- *Making Medicine Mercury Free*
- *Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment Environmental Excellence Award*

Profile Updated April 2021



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

Learn more at green.maryland.gov

