

Trailblazer: Carroll Hospital Center



Carroll Hospital Center (CHC) is utilizing a sustainability tracking tool that enables the hospital to quantify the results of its environmental initiatives. This software allows the hospital to track its water, energy, and natural gas usage. Driven by the data, CHC had its boiler refurbished, began boiler parameter control charts, adjusted pressure and water temperatures, and softened all the domestic water within the hospital, which improved heat transfer through coils. Through these steps, CHC reduced its



natural gas usage by 30 percent. The hospital continues to work on new programs to further reduce its carbon footprint and fossil fuel consumption.

Tracking and reducing carbon footprint:

FY2011 Sustainability Goals

Legend: Not Participating (Brown), Not Initiated (Red), Completed (Green), In Progress (Yellow), Not Applicable (Grey)

Program	Start	North	South	Med Ctr	Tower	Desert	% Complete
Environmental Initiatives							
Environmental Commitment Statement Goal: Signed Statement	7/01/09	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	100%
Waste, Energy and Water Audits Goal: Establish Baseline & Ongoing Process	7/01/09	Not Initiated	Not Initiated	Not Initiated	In Progress	In Progress	25%
Energy							
Pharmaceutical Waste Goal: Implement Program	7/01/09	Completed	In Progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	100%
Single Stream Recycle Program Goal: Implement Program	7/01/09	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	38%
Food Waste Composting Program Goal: Implement Program	7/01/09	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	20%
Energy Management Plan Goal: Develop Plan	7/01/09	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	In Progress	25%
		100%	43%	50%	43%	63%	60%

CHC recently purchased a sustainable software program that helps measure sustainable successes. The hospital is the first in Maryland to purchase this software. CHC first used the software to track its natural gas reduction initiative. The hospital refurb-

Reducing energy and water consumption:

CHC began a "lights off campaign" in the patient care area by simply turning off all lights in hallways and patients rooms from 3p-4p daily. CHC also sends out reminders during this time for everyone to make sure that all unoccupied room lights are turned off. The hospital is also working hard to make sure all computer screens are turned off at the end of the business day. There are green team spies that make after-hours runs to check computers. If a screen is left on, the associate will return to work with a sticker on their computer that states, "Turn it off."

ished the boiler, began boiler parameter control charts, management of pressure and water temperature, and the softening of all domestic water within the hospital (which improved heat transfer through coils). This was tracked though the software and turned out to generate a 30 percent reduction of natural gas, which calculates to be 3,022 pounds of carbon dioxide reduction and a savings of \$126,876.

Purchasing and serving local sustainable foods:

In addition to tracking initiatives, CHC is supporting local farmers by purchasing fruits, vegetables, chicken, turkey, beef, and buffalo from local organic growers. Using local farmers also helps with fuel reduction and helps with reducing carbon footprint. The food is served to patients and in the cafeteria. Additionally, CHC started a farmers' market, open to the community.



L to R: **Carmela Coyle**, MHA; **John Miller**, CHC; **Robbin Nolen**, CHC; **Robert White**, CHC; **Kate Painter**, CHC; **Colleen Duerr**, CHC; **Joan Plisko**, MD H2E; **Louise Mitchell**, MD H2E