

# Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment

## Monthly News Roundup

### MD H2E's 2014 highlights

1. MD H2E wins [Practice Greenhealth Champion for Change award](#) nine years in a row!
2. MD H2E releases 2nd annual Sustainability Survey [results](#).
3. MD H2E and Key Green Solutions release [sustainability dashboard study](#)
4. MD H2E [recognized in](#) Environmental Leader Insider's Report
5. MD H2E announces Long Term Care Sustainability Conference (see page 6).
6. [MD H2E announces 2014 Trailblazer winners](#)
7. MD H2E announces new leadership team for the Maryland Healthcare Sustainability Leadership Council (see below).
8. MD H2E supports the Maryland HCSLC formation of a **green purchasing workgroup**. Details [HERE](#).
9. MD H2E recognizes hospitals participating in the 2014 [Buy Local Challenge](#)
10. MDH2E applauds hospitals serving meat raised without antibiotics on [Food Day](#)

## Maryland Health Care Sustainability Leadership Council announces 2015 leadership team

**Chair:** Rachel DeMunda, Director, Safety & Environmental Health Services, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

**Vice Chair:** Lisa Grubb, Director of Quality Mgmt, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

**Secretary:** Kevin Mell, Vice President, Operations, MedStar Montgomery Medical Center

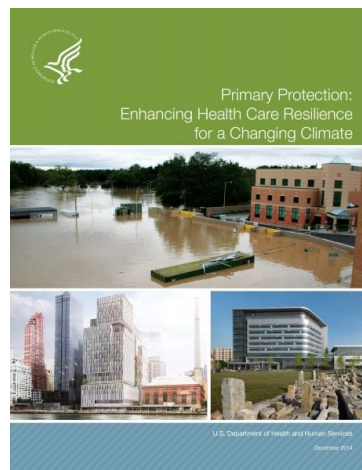
**Immediate Past Chair:** Mike Forthman, VP Facilities/ Support Services, GBMC

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## White House issues climate resilience guide for hospitals

### Primary Protection: Enhancing Health Care Resilience for a Changing Climate

This [guide](#), co-authored by Robin Guenther of Healthcare without Harm, discusses the current state of healthcare infrastructure in the face of extreme weather, including regulatory guidelines and typical design characteristics, as well as future solutions for new construction and retrofitting existing facilities. The guide also places high priority on facilities currently in vulnerable areas.



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[www.mdh2e.org](http://www.mdh2e.org)

## Submit your Sustainable Victory stories for 2014!

Last year MD H2E asked hospitals to submit three sustainable victories that were achieved in 2013. The victories were later sorted into major categories reflective of the national sustainability movement and published on our website and in the News Roundup. Click [HERE](#) to see last year's Maryland Hospital Sustainable Victories.



MD H2E is simplifying the process! Submit 2014 Sustainable Victories via an online survey. Click on this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/67FVM8V> to fill out the survey. If you only have one or two 'victories,' that is ok! Contact [Joan Plisko](#) with any questions, or to find out more about MD H2E programs.



## Maryland Healthcare Sustainability Leadership Council announces new leaders

...Continued from front page

### Work Groups

**Membership:** Karen Grant, Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer, Springfield Hospital Center

**Education:** Randy Komenski, Director, Clinical Transformation & Clinical Bus. Operations/Safety Officer, Bon Secours Baltimore Health System

**Advocacy:** Steve Band, Director, Div. of Pediatric Psychology and Neuropsychology, Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital; Rebecca Rehr, Public Health Advocacy Coordinator, Maryland Environmental Health Network

**Best Management Practices:** Joan Plisko, Director, Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment

**Greener Purchasing:** Colleen Cusick, Director, Materials Management, The Johns Hopkins Hospital

### About the Health Care Sustainability Leadership Council (HCSLC)

Launched in 2011, the Maryland Health Care Sustainability Leadership Council is a volunteer organization comprised of health care providers who are leading environmental sustainability efforts across Maryland's hospitals and health care facilities. The mission of the Maryland Health Care Sustainability Leadership Council is **to foster environmentally conscious health care facilities that engage, educate, inspire and advocate for social responsibility in their leaders, employees, patients, and the wider community.** Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment facilitates the operation of the MD HCSLC.

Benefits of being part of the HCSLC include:

- Engage, network, share, and learn from peers;
- Create and participate in collaborative efforts and campaigns;
- Assess, develop, and benchmark sustainability goals and programs; and
- Leverage the commonalities among health care facilities to generate reduced costs and improved environmental and health outcomes.

There is a seat at the table for every hospital, health system, and health care provider in Maryland! For more information, contact Joan Plisko at [jplisko@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:jplisko@som.umaryland.edu)

## MD H2E Trailblazer and Environmental Health Nursing Awards Schedule

**February 16, 2015** Trailblazer and Environmental Health Nursing Award applications will be made available for recognition of sustainability initiatives conducted in 2014.

**March 27, 2015:** Completed Trailblazer and EHN Award applications due to the MD H2E review committee.

**June 2015:** Trailblazer Awards announced and presented to hospital CEOs at the Maryland Hospital Association's annual meeting.

**October 2015:** Trailblazer and Environmental Health Nursing Awards recognition and education event honoring the winning hospital Green Team members and showcasing the winners' best practices.

More details to follow. Contact Joan Plisko if you have any questions: [jplisko@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:jplisko@som.umaryland.edu)

## Not all germs are created equal: new documentary

Strep throat as a life-threatening illness? No more surgeries due to high risk of infections? As the 86th anniversary of the discovery of penicillin approaches, a new film explores how antibiotics, medicine's miracle drug, may soon be rendered useless and presents solutions to averting the antibiotic-resistance "cliff."

Uji Films and Applegate will screen the new documentary *Resistance* in Washington, DC June 11 followed by a congressional briefing on Capitol Hill. The event is part of a 50-state screening series that includes digital streaming availability of the film. The documentary uses a blend of interviews, archival material, animation, and vérité footage shot across the U.S. and other parts of the globe to showcase how the modern miracle of mass-produced antibiotics is reaching a potentially catastrophic scenario due to overuse and mismanagement.

Through personal stories and commentary, *Resistance* reveals the journey that turned one of the greatest health achievements into one of the greatest threats humanity has ever faced.

"Every day new reports suggest we are losing our battle against antibiotic-resistant superbugs. *Resistance* pulls back the curtain on how we got here, and provides insights into what we can do so that these life-saving medicines we rely on will work when we really need them," said filmmaker Michael Graziano.

Graziano includes seventeen subjects representing a wide array of perspectives on the issue, including health professionals, government officials, victims of antibiotic-resistant infections and even animal farmers and veterinarians, as 80 percent of the antibiotics in the U.S. are sold for farm animals.

"We have been at the forefront of the antibiotic-free meat movement for more than 25 years, and I'm so very relieved to see more interest and concern about the topic," said Stephen McDonnell, founder and CEO of Applegate, the nation's largest producer of natural and organic meats. "I'm not afraid of losing a competitive edge in the antibiotic-free meat market, but I'm terrified of superbugs. That is why we are proud to work with so many leading organizations to support the distribution campaign for this exceptional and moving film that will help galvanize the movement to save antibiotics."

The Washington, DC screening of *Resistance* is the second leg of a 50 state tour, presented by Applegate, and is creating open and productive dialogue about the challenges of antibiotic resistance, opportunities for engagement, and resources the public and others who view the film can use to get involved. The *Resistance* team is working with Applegate, Environmental Working Group, Food & Water Watch, Natural Resources Defense Council, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and Slow Food USA among others. More information about the tour and digital download at [www.resistancethefilm.com](http://www.resistancethefilm.com).

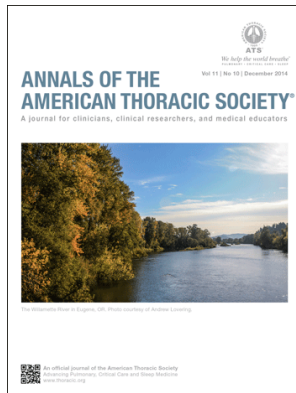
**MD H2E and the CFLC will be screening this movie in Baltimore and other parts of the Chesapeake Region. Email [Gina Navarro](mailto:Gina.Navarro) to stay informed! Dates & Locations To Be Announced.**

## Resources, Reports & Tools

### Survey Finds doctors concerned about health impacts of climate change

**"Physicians and physician organizations should play an active role in educating patients, the public, and policy makers on the human health effects of climate change."**

A recent [study](#) conducted by the American Thoracic Society (ATS) indicates that a large majority of ATS members have concluded that climate change is happening (89%), that it is driven by human activity (68%), and that it is relevant to patient care. Respondents indicated they were already observing increases in chronic disease severity from air pollution (77%), allergic symptoms from exposure to plants or mold (58%), and severe weather injuries (57%).



### US Dietary Guidelines Report

The U.S. Dietary Guidelines Action Committee released its latest [report](#) on national nutritional standards. Of note, they recommend:

- Diets in lower in red and processed meats
- Diets associated with more favorable environmental outcomes
- Incentives to encourage initiatives, environmental / policy changes, food/ beverage standards and preventive services
- A paradigm shift in health care and public health toward a greater focus on prevention and integration with food systems
- Establish healthy food environments (schools, worksites, child care settings, etc.)

### Coastal interactive flood map

Climate Central has developed an [interactive flood assessment](#) tool for coastal cities in the US. How many cities fall below the future tide?



### MD H2E sustainability survey

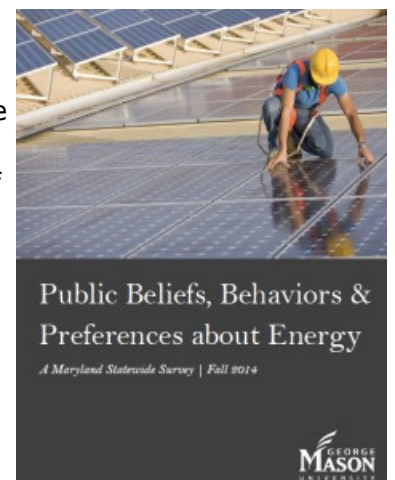
Did you miss last month's newsletter? To see MD H2E's most recent sustainability survey results, click [HERE](#).

### Articles

- **Facilitycare.com**, Matt Gates: [Taking a strategic approach to energy management](#), Nov 20, 2014
- **USA Today**: [White House issues climate change guide for hospitals](#), Dec 15, 2014
- **Baltimore Magazine**: [The sea also rises](#), January 2015
- **HFM Magazine**: [Johns Hopkins finds physician support is key to recycling](#), November 2014

### Report: Public Beliefs, Behaviors and Preferences about Energy

According to a recent [survey](#) released by George Mason University's Center for Climate Change Communication, in partnership with the Climate Communication Consortium of Maryland, the majority of Marylanders would like the state to use more renewable fuel sources to generate electricity. The sources of renewable electricity most favored by Marylanders for further development are solar (78%), and offshore and land-based wind (each 69%).





## SUSTAINABLE FOOD PAGES

Sustainable Food Procurement in health systems and large institutions

### Cultivate the Chesapeake Foodshed— 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Future Harvest Conference

January 15-17, 2015 • College Park Marriott Hotel & Conference Center

#### Conference Highlights:

- Farmer & Chef Keynotes incl. Spike Gjerde, Woodberry Kitchen
- 7 Tracks & 42 Workshops
- **Everybody Eats: Health & Food:** MD H2E's Co-Director Dr. Chris D'Adamo will be speaking with American Diabetes Association Executive Director, Kathy Rogers on the *Benefits of Eating Locally* as it pertains to preventative medicine.
- **Environment, Community & Policy:** Louise Mitchell and Gina Navarro will be speaking on behalf of the Chesapeake Food Leadership Council and join Trista Grigsby of Commonwealth Sustainability Works to discuss market potential of healthcare, schools and other institutions.
- **Other Tracks** include **Business of Farming, Beginning Farming, Made Local, Fruit & Vegetable Production** and the latest on **Grass-fed Meat & Dairy Production**.



Register & More Information [HERE](#)

### Top 10 Food Trends for 2015

Each year, the National Restaurant Association surveys American Culinary Federation chefs to reveal the top menu trends for the coming year. They are:

1. Locally sourced meats and seafood
2. Locally grown produce
3. Environmental sustainability
4. Healthful kids' meals
5. Natural ingredients/minimally processed foods
6. New cuts of meat
7. Hyper-local sourcing
8. Sustainable seafood
9. Food waste reduction/management
10. Farm/estate branded items

For more information visit [Restaurant.org/FoodTrends](http://Restaurant.org/FoodTrends).

### ChefConnect: Baltimore

Vegetarian plates, locally sourced produce and sustainable seafood are topics that will be discussed at **ChefConnect: Baltimore, Feb. 15-17!**

Join Mike Miello, executive chef/Food Fanatic, US Foods, New York; and Rocco Paradiso, executive chef/Food Fanatic, US Foods, Fort Mill, South Carolina, for a four-course vegetarian tasting menu

Learn about farmed versus wild fishing methods and the vegan alternatives

Discover how to create delicious and healthy vegan entrees and desserts

Learn more about the presenters for ChefConnect: Baltimore and take advantage of early registration rates at [www.acfchefs.org/events](http://www.acfchefs.org/events).

### Newsworthy Articles:

- **Triple Pundit**, [Seamus Mullen trumpets the secret power of good food](#), Nov 18, 2014
- **Takepart.com**, [There is a hospital-food revolution happening in America](#), Oct 28, 2014

## Upcoming Events!

### MD H2E EVENTS:

#### Healthcare Sustainability Leadership Council Quarterly Meeting:

**Thursday March 5th • 8 am– 10 am • Maryland Hospital Association**

Stay tuned for more details. Email [Joan Plisko](mailto:jplisko@som.umaryland.edu) or [Rachel DeMunda](mailto:Rachel.DeMunda@som.umaryland.edu) with any questions.

#### Chesapeake Food Leadership Council:

Food Service Professional Leaders Wanted. Join the CFLC listserv and receive meeting updates, events and webinars to support your local sustainable food procurement strategies in 2015 – email Gina Navarro to join the CFLC listserv today!

#### Spring into Sustainability: An introduction to sustainable practices for long term care facilities

**Date: Tuesday April 28, 2015**

**Meeting: 9:00am– 4:00pm**

**Location: [The Institute for Integrative Health](http://www.theinstitute.org), 1407 Fleet St, Baltimore MD 21231**

Email [Tarah Ranke](mailto:Tarrah.Ranke@som.umaryland.edu) with questions. More details coming soon!



### Schedule your MD H2E team visit!

MD H2E is now scheduling Spring 2015 hospital visits to speak to and/or present to green teams, executives, or other departments on the following topics:

- Results and further discussion on the 2014 MD H2E Sustainability Survey
- Applying for the 2015 Trailblazer Awards
- Setting sustainability goals
- Marketing and communicating your sustainability initiatives

Email [Joan Plisko](mailto:jplisko@som.umaryland.edu) for more information.

### 2015 Maryland Buyer-Grower Expo

**January 22<sup>nd</sup> • 10:00 am – 2:00 pm**  
**Navy-Marine Corps. Stadium • "N" Room**  
**Annapolis, MD**

Connect with growers, producers, processors and other buyers from grocery stores, hospitals, restaurants, schools, and other venues.

**Register & More Information [HERE](http://www.marylandbuyer-growerexpo.com)**

**410-841-5779 Or [stone.slade@maryland.gov](mailto:stone.slade@maryland.gov)**



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