**Environmental Health in Nursing Award Application**

Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (MD H2E) is accepting applications for the 2014 Environmental Health in Nursing award. This award will go to a nurse in Maryland who is solving environmental challenges by using innovative and sustainable practices, or is applying sustainable thinking into every day work. Applicants or nominees should be nurses who display leadership and exemplify excellence in environmental health. They may lead or be active on a facility green team, participate in climate change initiatives outside of the hospital, and/or advocate for greener purchasing.

Applicants may self-nominate or be nominated by colleagues.  Applications should be limited to **three pages**, double spaced.  An additional **three attachments** may be submitted.  While the selection criteria below will be used in the evaluation process, an applicant need not provide examples of each criterion, if an area is not applicable.  Please include the names and contact information for **two professional references** at the end of the application.

Nominees/ applicants must be licensed nurses (RN, LPN, APRN, CRNP, CRNA, CNS) in the state of Maryland at time of submission.

**Application deadline is Friday March 27th2015. The winner will be notified by Friday April 24th, 2015.**

The MD H2E Environmental Health in Nursing Award review committee will evaluate nominees based on the following criteria:

1.  **Leadership**: Proven leadership in projects which promote sustainability and reduce exposures to toxins in health care settings. Does the applicant clearly demonstrate the use of practices that go above and beyond standard techniques or regulatory compliance practices? Does the applicant demonstrate the use of practices that exemplify outstanding creativity or introduce new approaches?

2.  **Organizational influence**: Effective facilitation of changes in organizational policies that protect and promote environmental health; helping to increase the organization’s capacity to develop and deliver educational programs that advance sustainability and innovation. Does that project result in a significant environmental benefit or positively contribute to a trained workforce in these areas

3.  **Dissemination of knowledge**: Broad dissemination of knowledge about best practices in environmental health nursing, through the authoring of articles, publications, or presentations. Has the applicant been able to show replicable projects and ideas to other units/ departments/ institutions? Are the concepts environmentally sound and/or economically feasible?

4.  **Mentoring**: Active mentoring and being available as a resource to other nurses who are beginning to make environmentally preferable changes in their institutions. Preference to those that can demonstrate a significant contribution in training workforce in areas of environmental benefit and healthcare sustainability.

5.  **Interdisciplinary collaboration**: Promotion of interdisciplinary collaboration on sustainable initiatives within healthcare. Has the applicant forged unique or creative partnerships outside of his/her unit, department or hospital?

**The winner will be expected to participate in MD H2E’s Trailblazer educational event in October 2015.** Please submit completed application to jplisko@som.umaryland.edu

For questions, please contact Joan Plisko at jplisko@som.umaryland.edu or Carrie Flora at cflora@som.umaryland.edu