



## 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



3001 S. Hanover St.  
Baltimore, MD 21225  
410-350-7795  
[www.medstarharbor.org](http://www.medstarharbor.org)  
Hospital/Healthcare  
Member since August 2019

## Management and Leadership



### Environmental Team

*The MedStar Health systemwide Environmental Leadership Council includes representation from each member hospital. The team's mission is to establish, maintain, and support environmental sustainability programs in support of the Corporate Mission, Vision, and Values. This team meets quarterly and serves as a collection and dissemination point for all environmental sustainability activities and programs across the system.*

*The MedStar Harbor Hospital Green Team merged with the MedStar Harbor Hospital Wellness Team to form the Green & Wellness Team. A combined efforts is to focus on integrating the benefits of time in nature for physical and mental wellbeing. Teachings include therapeutic outdoor walks, meditation, and yoga. The interdepartmental Green and Wellness Team meets monthly and provides Executive Leadership team with updates and sustainable recommendations on a regular basis. The Team seeks feedback from the hospital Board when necessary.*



### Annual Environmental Goals

- *Continue to expand the tree canopy on the main campus.*
- *Implement Phase II of the Cherry Hill Urban Forest park. The tree plantings will provide community gathering and cooling spaces amidst newly planted trees and is in partnership with the Baltimore Tree Trust.*
- *Reinvigorate the recycling program after a temporary halt due to the Covid-19 pandemic and challenges in the recycling market.*

- *Expand "refresh stations" (place where associates can go to relax, obtain free food, and beverages) for associates to have safe place for unwinding.*
- *Implemented Wellness rounds to provide associates with relaxation techniques including aroma therapy and pressure point rings. Provide resource information to MedStar Health's many wellness programs. Electronic sign up allows leaders to schedule Wellness Rounds throughout the campus.*
- *Enhanced outdoor spaces by adding wifi, music, new furniture, and expanded use times.*
- *Reduce food waste by utilizing Sodexo's "Bite Ap" which allows Associates to pre-order food for pick up.*



### **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

- *Eliminated both PVC and DEHP in products such as breast pumps, enteral nutrition products, respiratory therapy products, and more.*
- *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, the conference center was renovated furniture was purchased according to green guidelines and LED lights installed. 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**

- *Phase I of the Cherry Hill Urban Forest Park was initiated which included planting 65 native overstory trees.*
- *Began fundraising for Phase II of the Urban Forest Park which includes benches, trash/recycling receptacles, and crushed stone pathways.*
- *Created three educational videos for Associates which provide information on campus greening efforts, connection between health and nature. Partners include Plisko Sustainable Solutions, LLC, Nature Worx, The Baltimore Tree Trust, and Rain Underground.*
- *Maintain the 48,000 plants and trees planted during the green infrastructure plan and grant awards from The Chesapeake Bay Trust and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. See details under "Stormwater Management" section below.*
- *Planted 320 native plants/shrubs near the entrance of the Emergency Department.*
- *Created and installed educational signage that teaches the importance of conservation landscaping to over 20,000 Associates, visitors, and community members that use the facility each year.*
- *Expanded the tree canopy with 26 additional trees which helps sequester carbon. 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**

- *Collected 865 pounds of single-use devices through a medical device reprocessing program.*
- *Generated regulated medical waste at of 6% of the total waste stream.*
- *Implemented double sided copying to reduce paper use.*
- *Diverted eight tons of plastic from the landfill through reusable sharps container program.*
- *Total waste pounds per patient day was 41.44, lower than the average sustainable hospital.*
- *Continued the New2U program which consists of taking furniture, office supplies, electronics, equipment, and some patient items (e.g. scales) for reuse.*
- *Held two successful bulk donations in 2021*
  - *Donated of 525 lbs. of bassinets and cabinetry to Orphan Grain Train.*
  - *Donated 7,000 lbs. of TVs locally.*
- *Transitioned from single-use disinfectant (Oxivir) wipe containers to packaging onsite which minimized overall waste generated, eliminated disposable packaging required, and reduced emissions associated with delivery.*
- *Selected a vendor to optimize and oversee print management program. While paper usage increased due to COVID procedures and a need for additional/new forms, these paper reduction efforts should deliver positive results in the future.*
- *Implemented Waste Watch powered by LeanPath, a technology program that tracks details and data on food waste. This data is used to create strategies for pre-consumer food waste reduction.*



### **Recycling**

- *Overall recycling rate of 28% and a construction and demolition debris recycling rate of 69.8%.*
- *Continued recycling partnerships with The Arc Baltimore to help recycle electronics.*



### **Hazardous Waste/Toxic Use Reduction**

- *Mercury free hospital since 2015.*
- *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 integrated pest management program to minimize the use of toxic pesticides.*

## Energy



### **Energy Efficiency**

*Plant infrastructure is in a 5-year modernization plan to replace 40+ year old boilers, hot water heaters, and cooling systems.*

*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.*

- *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.*
- *More than 90% of operating rooms are fitted with LED lighting.*

## Transportation



### **Employee Commute/Customer Travel**

- *Participate in the Maryland Transportation Authority program to provide discounted bus passes to Associates.*
- *MedStar transport system at Harbor Hospital uses best practices to reduce idling.*

## Water



### **Stormwater Management and Site Design**

- *Stormwater Project*
  - *Received over \$1.3 million to design and implement a green infrastructure master plan.*
  - *Planted 63 trees, removed unnecessary impermeable surfaces, and installed 14 rain gardens. In all, 48,000 perennials and shrubs, native to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, were installed.*
  - *Installed expansive healing garden on the waterfront lawn, complete with educational signage.*
  - *Complete in 2019, the project treats over 5 million gallons of stormwater each year.*
- *Transitioned to Ice Melt which is a natural alternative to salt which is safer for pets, is non-toxic to fish, aquatic life and watersheds, is biodegradable, does not promote*

*algae blooms in rivers, lakes, bays or wetlands, and does not harm lawns, vegetation, or hardscapes, when used as directed.*

## Environmental Certification Programs, Awards, and Other Activities



- *Produced three videos about the rain garden and other sustainability programs which are shared on the MedStar intranet.*
- *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.*

### **Sustainable Foods:**

- *Reduced pounds of meat and poultry by 15.4% by offering seafood and plant-based options on a regular basis as a substitute for meat entrees. This represents a 9.9% reduction in GHG emissions from the 2019 baseline.*
- *Held Care for the Caregiver programs throughout the pandemic such as Wellness Rounds with the Physician, virtual meditation and yoga sessions, and enhancement of the Employee Assistance Program.*

**Profile Updated April 2022**



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

*Learn more at [green.maryland.gov](https://green.maryland.gov)*

