



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.

University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center



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Medical Center
Member since March 2018

Management and Leadership



Annual Environmental Goals

We have included environmental goals each year for at least the past 5 years. FY21 our goal was to complete a comprehensive assessment of all our waste streams to include establishing baselines for each. During FY 22 our goal has been a reduction in regulated medical waste and completion of individual departmental awareness training on waste disposal. We are on track with our education goals. We have continued opportunities for reducing regulated medical waste.



Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

UM St. Joseph Medical Center has continued our long-standing commitment to being mercury free wherever possible. The current policy states: "Only non-mercury containing materials will be purchased by UM SJMC unless there is no substitute available for an essential application."

Waste



Solid Waste Reduction and Reuse

UM St. Joseph Medical Center contracted services of a third-party vendor in 2020 in an effort to improve our waste management and with the goal of less overall waste. During 2020, 2021 and continuing through 2022. Over the past 18 months, there has been many strides made with this goal in mind. All of our

non-chemo, path, or sharps medical waste is treated on-site and hauled as municipal solid waste which greatly reduces the environmental impact of this waste stream. Our goal is to reduce total generation of regulated medical waste per patient day to that of top performing industry standards of 2 lbs. per patient day and are currently down to around 3.5 lbs. on average.

We have:

- *Completed an assessment of the waste streams generated within the facility.*
- *Developed visual cues for waste disposal to aide team members in selecting the appropriate containers.*
- *Completed training on all the waste streams in 31 departments during FY21. Our goal for CY22 is 48 in-service training classes. In CY 23 our goal is 60. (Metric associated initiative).*
- *Began trialing a waste diversion for low level electronics and usable furniture.*
- *Identified a third party to divert usable medical supplies and equipment. Large donations were made to divert these materials from the waste stream during the fiscal year. 50 pallets of materials such as isolation gowns, bandages, and stethoscopes totaling over 20,000 pounds were donated this year alone.*

Recycling

Single stream recycling is collected around the hospital and recycled in our compactor. We collect non-confidential paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, and plastic bottles. Our largest recycling stream is our confidential paper which collected in locked consoles, shredded, and recycled. We also have recycling programs for electronics and batteries. We also track waste diverted from using reusable sharps collection containers and utilization of reprocessible medical devices versus disposable. Our current diversion rate is 29%.

Composting

UM St. Joseph Medical Center began composting kitchen food waste in 2019. This program has been expanded over the past several years. We currently compost over 15,500 pounds of organic waste each month!

Energy

Energy Efficiency

UM St. Joseph Medical Center has now replaced all exterior lighting to

all exterior lights. We started with the garages and expanded to all the lighting. This type of lighting is expected to last longer and have fewer maintenance costs as well.

Renewable Energy

We have invested in cogeneration technology through our combined heat and power plant (CHP), which became fully operational in February 2018. This plant utilizes a natural gas engine to generate electricity more efficiently, while using the heat output to create steam and heating hot water for the facility. In the first full month of operation, we estimate a generation of approximately 1,150,000 kWh. We continue to operate our CHP since installation and continue to realize savings.

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

