

Environmental Statement

As a leading health system, Spectrum Health is aware of the connection between the environment and human health. Our mission—To improve the health of the communities we serve—includes a commitment to sustainability efforts. Sustainability refers to meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The focus of our sustainability commitment is to improve human health, enhance the natural environment and practice fiscal responsibility. To improve patient and family experiences, achieve our key strategies, and support human, environmental and financial health, Spectrum Health will strive to:

- Assess the human and environmental effect of products and services. We will use those results to select healthy and safe products, prevent toxicity and waste, extend the life of products and minimize the use of hazardous materials, where possible.
- Support and encourage waste prevention, reuse, recycling and other waste-reducing strategies.
- Support and encourage the use of alternative transportation.
- Provide food that is healthy for people and the environment.
- Give information to our staff, patients and the community about the environmental goals we have set and the results we have achieved.
- Show leadership through education and community engagement. Educate and empower staff to promote workplace and community responsibility.
- Improve operational energy and water efficiency, promote cost-effective sustainable energy sources, and evaluate and reduce greenhouse gas and other harmful emissions into the air, water and earth.
- Meet or exceed all environmental laws, standards and regulations.
- Design and construct to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) or Green Guide for Health Care (GGHC) certification standards.
- Actively participate with expert organizations (e.g., Practice Greenhealth, West Michigan Sustainable Business Council and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality) to continuously improve our knowledge and methods of the best sustainable business practices.
- Set annual goals and develop action plans to continuously improve the quality and measurable outcomes of our environmental programs. Develop an annual Corporate Social Responsibility Report that describes and explains our commitment to environmental sustainability.

Spectrum Health is committed to these efforts and aspires to become a model for other health care systems.