



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center

Boise, Idaho

2007

Environmental Commitment

Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center is a partner of Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (H2E), a national voluntary program to help health care facilities take a leadership role in becoming better environmental stewards. Saint Alphonsus is committed to making its facilities safer and healthier for patients, staff, the community, and the environment.

Pollution Prevention Success

Mercury Elimination

Saint Alphonsus has recycled or disposed of most of its mercury-containing instruments and products, and replaced them with mercury-free alternatives.

Energy Conservation

Saint Alphonsus has implemented various green initiatives throughout the facility. In the new Central Tower, T12 lamps have been replaced with T8 lamps, which use 40% fewer watts, produce 40% less heat, and provide 10% greater light outputs. No-touch sensors on plumbing fixtures such as faucets, toilets, and soap dispensers have been installed. Energy efficient double-paned, low emissivity (Low-E) windows help retain heat in the winter and reflect heat in the summer. Saint Alphonsus has also installed 2,000-ton centrifugal chillers, which are designed to operate using low environmental impact 130 A refrigerants.

Recycling and Waste Division

In 2006, Saint Alphonsus recycled 25.3% of its total waste including aluminum, batteries, cardboard, mixed paper, electronic equipment, furniture, fluorescent lamps, kitchen grease, ink cartridges, construction waste, newspaper, oil-waste, paint waste, and xylene. The organization is currently setting up a program to recycle plastics.

In the new Central Tower, Saint Alphonsus is using recycled and recyclable carpet in the waiting areas. The new carpet also meets the Carpet and Rug Institute's Green Label indoor air quality standards for volatile organic compounds and low emissions, helping reduce harmful toxins in the air such as formaldehyde and styrene. Saint Alphonsus has made efforts to purchase products locally, order efficiently for maximum hauling capacity, and reduce transportation.

Employee Involvement

Saint Alphonsus has an Environment of Care Team, consisting of representatives from various departments throughout the organization. The purpose of the team is to oversee the regulatory and safety compliance programs, including waste and recycling management systems. The committee reviews problems or concerns within these areas, recommends resolution to on-going concerns, and reviews and establishes policies and procedures.

Leadership

In May 2007, Saint Alphonsus received the H2E Partner for Change Award, which recognizes facilities that continuously improve and expand upon their mercury elimination, waste reduction, and pollution prevention programs.

For More Information

Contact David Hoewing at (208) 367-2076.

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