



## Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center  
Boise and Meridian, Idaho

2007

### Environmental Commitment

St. Luke's 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.

### Pollution Prevention Success

#### Mercury Elimination

St. Luke's has recycled or safely disposed of most of its mercury-containing instruments and products and replaced them with mercury-free alternatives.

#### Energy Conservation

St. Luke's has converted incandescent lights to fluorescent tubes, implemented building management control upgrades, installed variable speed drives for fan and pump motors, commissioned a chiller plant for HVAC systems, and added a reverse osmosis water filtering system for boiler make-up water. To date, St. Luke's Boise and Meridian facilities have reduced their annual electricity consumption by 3,489,950 Kilowatts per year, natural gas consumption by 354,439 therms per year, and water consumption by 500 gallons per day.

#### Recycling and Waste Division

St. Luke's recycles mixed paper, cardboard, scrap metal, aluminum cans, plastics, used fluorescent lamps, expired batteries, and obsolete computers, electronic equipment, and furniture.

#### Green Purchasing

St. Luke's purchases biodegradable food-ware products made of a corn-based polymer and has converted all housekeeping chemicals, except for disinfectants, to certified green cleaning products.

#### Employee Involvement

A "Green Team" of St. Luke's employees meets monthly to share opportunities for waste reduction or pollution prevention and make recommendations to facility management. The Green Team also helps implement "green" ideas throughout the facility and helps make them successful by setting examples and encouraging other employees to participate.

St. Luke's has established an Employee Alternative Transportation Program to encourage employees to find alternative means of transportation to and from work. The program provides rewards and works with the Valley Regional Transit to allow St. Luke's employees to ride the buses for free if they present their St. Luke's badge. Since May 2007, 143 employees have used alternative transportation.

## Leadership

By becoming an H2E Partner, St. Luke's has made a commitment to reducing its environmental impact and protecting the health and safety of its patients, staff, and the community. From improved energy efficiency to reduced use of toxic chemicals, St. Luke's has demonstrated its leadership in pollution prevention.

## For More Information

Contact Roger Dean at (208) 381-2256.

*Information on this webpage represents examples of projects undertaken by the organizations only and does not constitute Departmental certification or approval of compliance at this or any other time with federal, state and/or local regulations, but is solely presented as an example of projects undertaken by organizations in order to prevent pollution and/or conserve resources.*