



Administrative Policy

Subject: Sustainability Policy

Effective Date: 5/2018

Policy Update: 5/2020

**Primary Responsibility: Environmental Health & Safety- Sustainability
AHS Corporate Green Team and Site based Green Teams**

1.0 PURPOSE: Our Environmental Commitment:

As a leading health system, we know our decisions impact the cultural, economic and physical landscape of New Jersey and resonate on a national and global level. We are committed to communicating our values to the next generation of health care providers, sharing best practices with our peer institutions and employing innovative strategies to become a leader in sustainable health care all while fulfilling our sustainability mission.

2.0 POLICY: Mission

Atlantic Health System is committed to sustainability to enhance the health and wellbeing of our patients, team members and local community, and to steward our natural environment. Through the integration of social, economic and environmental considerations into our business decisions, AHS is committed to managing by preserving our natural resources. We will fully strive to pursue recycling, waste reduction, safer chemicals, green design through construction, reducing our carbon footprint and energy saving policies to treat our environment with respect.

3.0 PROCEDURE

Atlantic Health System will initiate and report on the eco-friendly projects happening throughout AHS to help us reach the goals listed below and beyond:

- **Multi-Stream Recycling & Waste Reduction:** Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials, such as plastics, that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. At AHS, we follow what is known as multi-stream recycling. Multi-stream recycling is a collection method in which waste generators are required to source separate recyclables in to two (or more) separate bins (generally, paper fibers are placed in one bin and all other containers (plastics, aluminum, etc.) are placed in other bins).
- **Energy and Water Conservation:** AHS Engineering and Facility Services work continuously to improve energy efficiencies, including LED lights, occupancy sensors and upgrades to facility equipment. AHS has committed to a Water Management plan for the entire system
- **Safer Chemicals:** AHS must always determine best practices to meet environmental compliance regulations for chemicals. Develop programs that allow for conversion away from the utilization of certain high-risk chemicals. Collaborate with health care supply chain to identify safer products and materials.



- **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program (EPP)-** AHS will always benefit with a significant reduction on overall impact of environment. Reduction of costs with minimized purchase prices or replacements. Potential reduction of certain waste streams, including hazardous waste. AHS will strive to see improvements to overall team member, patient and visitor safety. Generate opportunities for positive publicity and promotion
- **Green Designs and Construction:**
- **Transportation:** AHS will continue to support and encourage team members to participate in ride sharing programs. AHS will continue to install charging stations for electric vehicles at Overlook, Morristown, Chilton and eventually in the western region at Newton and Hackettstown.
- **Paperless Communications** At AHS sustainable strategy communications are vital to displaying our environmental commitment. We continue to implement forms of paperless communication to our team members, patients and surrounding communities. Using platforms such a Teams, and Workplace to communicate internally, EPIC and MyChart to communicate with patients and social media platforms to communicate with the general population, AHS is continuously leveraging available technologies to improve methods of communications.
- **Climate Change** AHS is addressing the negative health impacts of climate change and air pollution, while providing the necessary healthcare to the communities we serve. AHS continues to work to minimize the carbon footprint of our operations. AHS continues to build on our Emergency Preparedness planning. We continue to prepare our facilities for climate impacts and strengthen resilience so necessary healthcare can be provided to all the communities that we serve, even during extreme weather events.

4.0 POLCY SUPPORT

- Please review the Management Plans for the Environment of Care