



PRACTICE GREENHEALTH BACKGROUNDER

The nation's leading sustainable health care membership organization.

Practice Greenhealth is the leading nonprofit membership and networking organization for sustainable health care. Our mission is to empower our members to increase their efficiencies and environmental stewardship while improving patient safety and care through tools, best practices and knowledge. Founded in 2008, Practice Greenhealth is *the* source for environmental solutions for the health care sector.

Practice Greenhealth members include hospitals and health care systems, health care providers, state hospital associations, group purchasing organizations (GPOs) and non-profits.



Empowering hospitals to deliver a higher standard of care.

Practice Greenhealth delivers environmental solutions to more than 1,300 members, lending support to create better, safer, greener workplaces and communities. We provide expert knowledge, practical tools, one-on-one guidance and support to help our members protect the health of patients, employees, and the communities they serve.

As a result, our members are dramatically reducing their environmental footprints through safer products, reduced air emissions, elimination of toxins, healthier working environments, and energy and water efficiency.

Transforming facilities across the nation.

As the second-largest industry in the U.S., the health care sector is poised to be a leader in sustainability. With increasing evidence linking climate change, waste, chemicals, and certain energy usage to public health, a growing number of hospitals are embracing sustainability as part of their mission.

Many health care institutions are turning to Practice Greenhealth to help meet their goals. We are proud of our work to educate, motivate, and engage the health care industry to create healthier, more sustainable facilities.

Expert, one-on-one assistance for members.

Practice Greenhealth is recognized for delivering customized solutions that meet hospitals on their sustainability journey. Our Member Engagement team is skilled at working one-on-one with hospitals to identify goals and design strategies that are achievable, given the organization's current resources. Our comprehensive tracking and benchmarking tools allow facilities to measure improvements and celebrate environmental successes along the way.

ACCELERATING CHANGE ACROSS THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR.

Practice Greenhealth is changing the health care landscape through our cutting-edge programs and initiatives. We cut to the core by addressing key challenges to adopting sustainable, eco-friendly practices. Our initiatives help educate, motivate and engage health care professionals to adopt best practices that increase operational efficiency.

GREENING THE OR® INITIATIVE

- Addresses the environmental footprint of our nation's operating rooms, which account for as much as 56 percent of a hospital's total budget and generate about 30 percent of a hospital's total waste.
- Helps hospitals reduce environmental impact, reduce costs, increase efficiency and improve worker and patient safety.

GREENING THE SUPPLY CHAIN® INITIATIVE

- Aims to create an industry-wide shift towards environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP).
- Includes the five largest GPOs who together represent over \$135 billion annually in purchasing volume.
- Created the Standardized Environmental Questions for Medical Products to make it easier for hospitals to purchase environmentally preferable products.

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP COALITION

- Engages other health care related-businesses more proactively.
- Collaborates with suppliers at the start of the medical supply chain, large and small, in promoting products and processes that are environmentally safe.
- Working together to remove the barriers to greener medical products, this group is on the forefront of change.

HEALTHIER HOSPITALS

- Born from a three-year joint campaign of Practice Greenhealth and Health Care Without Harm, it

has since transitioned to a program of Practice Greenhealth to continue providing frameworks and implementation tools that can be used as a starting point by every hospital in the nation.

- Hospitals use their collective sustainability experience, purchasing power and industry representation to speed the process of greening the health care sector. Uses data to engage around proven environmental strategies and lead communities to a healthier future.
- Six Challenges form the basis of this program, with detailed metrics and an implementation plan that can be adapted by any hospital in the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- Given annually to recognize market leaders in health care sustainability and celebrate the achievements of our members, including individual health care facilities, and health care systems.
- Presented at the CleanMed Conference to members across the sustainability spectrum.

GREENHEALTH ACADEMY

- Cutting-edge sustainability training and education program.
- Encompasses sharing calls, a set of webinar series, plus customized curriculum, and training designed specifically for individual facilities.
- Offers comprehensive case studies, tools and resources on sustainability topics and sustainability professional training.

