

## Earth Day Event Ideas for Clinics

Earth Day is coming up in April, and local engagement is important to our commitment to sustainability. In April, we hope you'll help your team learn a little more about sustainability at HealthPartners – and maybe even do a fun activity or two.

Below are a few fun and easy ideas from the Clinics Green Team. Consider sharing these ideas with your team, and ask them how they'd like to celebrate Earth Day at your location.

However you decide to celebrate Earth Day, let us know! Send photos, a summary of the event, and any other materials to [HPsustainability@healthpartners.com](mailto:HPsustainability@healthpartners.com). The information you send us will be used in the Beat and other communications promoting our Earth Day events and other sustainability efforts.

- **Host an employee shred day.** This year in honor of Earth Day, and the end of tax season, we will be encouraging employees to bring in their personal confidential information to be securely shredded and recycled during the week of April 17.
- **Watch Health Care With Out Harm's "Do No Harm"** video at a team meeting or Huddle, <https://youtu.be/vv5paSCTYAk>, to educate colleagues on the importance of environmental stewardship and sustainability in health care.
- Create a **sustainability-themed bulletin board** in a staff lounge or break room. Check out the Sustainability page on [myPartner](#) or [Facets](#) for inspiration!
- Organize a **BYOP** (Bring your own plate) **pot luck!** And ask colleagues to bring their own reusable plates, forks, and cups. To go the extra step, try a meatless potluck.
- **Swap out the disposable** plates and utensils in your break rooms with reusable items. Second hand stores are a great place to purchase plates, forks, and cups at a discounted price.
- Have colleagues sign a **pledge "leaf"** to commit to an environmentally friendly action. Contact [Samantha.A.McKeough@HealthPartners.Com](mailto:Samantha.A.McKeough@HealthPartners.Com) for the leaf template and pledge ideas.
- Promote **sustainable transportation** options available at your clinic! Reach out to the Committee for Increase Activity (email [CIA@healthpartners.com](mailto:CIA@healthpartners.com)) or check out the [Commuter Services website](#) for more resources
- **Host a donation drive.** Have employees bring unwanted clothes, shoes, etc. to be donated to a local organization or charity. Not only does this kick off spring cleaning – it also helps items be recycled and re-used.
- **Host a used sneaker** donation drive to participate in Nike's ReUSE A SHOE program. Please visit the website for more information: <http://recyclenation.com/2012/08/nike-reuse-shoe-program#sthash.ilgYnFGO.dpuf>.
- **Plant a tree** – even if you have to wait until May!
- Spend a day, week or month on a **"turn off the lights"** campaign at your clinic.
- Spend a day, week or month on a **"turn off your monitor"** campaign.
- Dedicate a team meeting to sharing and gathering ideas from your team on how they would like to show a commitment to sustainability. **Pick a few to commit to** – either just in the month of April, or year round!
- **Have a table at your location on Earth Day** showcasing your Green Team's work, plus some of our sustainability resources (Clinics Sustainability Guidebook, Sustainability 2020 Goals, Sustainability Scorecard, recycling Sort Game and many more). Contact [Samantha.A.McKeough@HealthPartners.Com](mailto:Samantha.A.McKeough@HealthPartners.Com) for help gathering materials.

- **Host an outdoor activity**, such as a walking day or a road side clean-up with the Committee for Increase Activity. Email [CIA@healthpartners.com](mailto:CIA@healthpartners.com) to coordinate.
- **Watch Mary’s video about our sustainability commitment** at a team meeting or Huddle, <https://www.youtube.com/v/skbBa9Nn71Y> and ask your team to commit to one thing they want to do to be more sustainable
- **Organize a recycling themed lunch and learn**. Use this “Now This News” video that follows the recycling process from the bins to the material recovery facility: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s4LZwCDaoQM&feature=share>. Afterwards, review what can be recycled information in the sustainability guidebook.

Other resources for you to use/share with your clinic:

- Check out the Clinics Sustainability Guidebook  
[http://mypartner.healthpartners.com/cs/groups/public/@hp/@public/@hr/documents/document/y3nf/mjez/~edisp/pdwcs\\_213238.pdf](http://mypartner.healthpartners.com/cs/groups/public/@hp/@public/@hr/documents/document/y3nf/mjez/~edisp/pdwcs_213238.pdf)  
<http://intranet.parknicollet.com/EnvironmentalServices/Documents/Clinics%20Sustainability%20Guidebook.pdf>
- Sustainability on myPartner  
[http://mypartner.healthpartners.com/webcenter/spaces/mypartner\\_intranet/pages/topic?contentID=PDWCS\\_172412](http://mypartner.healthpartners.com/webcenter/spaces/mypartner_intranet/pages/topic?contentID=PDWCS_172412)
- Sustainability on Facets  
<http://intranet.parknicollet.com/EnvironmentalServices/Pages/Sustainability-Resources.aspx>
- Healthpartners.com/sustainability <http://www.healthpartners.com/public/about/sustainability/>

### Questions? Need help?

Contact Dana Slade or Samantha McKeough at [HPsustainability@healthpartners.com](mailto:HPsustainability@healthpartners.com).