

Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment Monthly News Roundup

August • 2015



Building and Maintaining a Green Team

Please join the Maryland Health Care Sustainability Leadership Council for a panel discussion on "Building and Maintaining a Successful Green Team."

When:	Where:	Agenda:
September 10, 2015 8:00 am – 10:00 am RSVP: by Sept 4 th to bkeatin4@jhmi.edu	Maryland Hospital Association 6820 Deerpath Road Elkridge, MD 21075 Directions	8:00-8:15 a.m. Networking/ Breakfast 8:15-9:00 Business Meeting 9:00-10:00 Panel Discussion

Panel discussion is scheduled to include:

Justin Graves: Sustainability Manager, University of Maryland Medical Center

Debbie Thiels: Administrative Project Coordinator, Bon Secours Health System

Robert Jewel: Director, Environmental Services, Sibley Hospital

Bill Griffith: President, Reduction in Motion

Registration is free, but required, and open to health care providers only. The last HCSLC for the year will be held on **December 3, 2015.**

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Mark your Calendars!

October 23rd: Trailblazer Education Event at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

December 3rd: End of year MD Healthcare Sustainability Leadership Council Meeting.

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Work Group Updates

MD Healthcare Sustainability Leadership Council

Advocacy Work Group: Join members of the HCSLC Advocacy Workgroup at the Maryland Campaign to Keep Antibiotics Working kick-off meeting on September 10 from 12-3. Hear from experts about antibiotic resistance and the overuse of antibiotics in raising livestock, meet Maryland legislators, individuals and businesses working on this issue, and help strategize on policy changes to fix the problem.

Contact [Rebecca Rehr](#) for additional information.

Education Work Group: The Education work group is sponsoring the upcoming HCSLC meeting and panel discussion with Green Team leaders. There are four speakers, each representing a different view point — small hospital with health and wellness integrated into green team, larger hospital, consultant who has assisted hospitals with establishing green teams, and a health system green team). Contact [Rachel DeMunda](#) with any questions!



Maryland Green Registry 2015 award winners and results

Maryland Department of the Environment Deputy Secretary Mary Tung recently recognized Maryland Green Registry leadership winners including **Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems, Prince George's Community College, Hord Coplan Macht, MedImmune/AstraZeneca** and **Honest Tea** at the sixth annual Maryland Green Registry Leadership Awards in Baltimore. This year, the Registry has partnered with the [U.S. Green Building Council, Maryland Chapter](#) on the event.



In addition to the leadership awards, the Registry announced the collective annual environmental results and cost savings as reported by all 450 [Maryland Green Registry](#) member organizations over the past year and the total results of the Registry's [Compost Challenge](#).

The Maryland Green Registry is a **free** way to promote your business or organization, save money and demonstrate your environmental commitment. For more information, contact Laura Armstrong at green.registry@maryland.gov

Sustainability Highlights

- **University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center** is developing a cogeneration plant on campus. This is an energy source that delivers two forms of energy (electricity and hot/cold water) by burning natural gas. This project, which is anticipated to be completed in May 2016, will create efficient electrical power and will operate using natural gas. The waste heat produced by the plant will be captured and used for heating the medical center, which will reduce emissions and increase overall energy efficiency. The plant will also increase reliability and power quality, offsetting the need for an additional emergency generator ultimately saving capital dollars. This project aligns with UM BWNC's green health efforts to be an environmentally responsible organization. Contact Earl Burke at eburke@bwmc.umms.org
- Starting August 3rd, Upper **Chesapeake** and **Harford Memorial** will begin composting food and paper items through Veteran Composting. In cafeterias approximately a half pound of food waste is generated per meal tray. Contact Kevin Long at Long-Kevin@aramark.com
- **MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center** implemented a compressive waste segregation program inside its operating rooms this spring. As ORs are commonly the largest generator of waste inside medical facilities, and specifically the largest generator of regulated medical waste, this was a

great area of opportunity. With their sustainability partner, Reduction In Motion, MFSMC educated surgical services and implemented a program to segregate regulated medical waste, regular trash, and recycling throughout OR procedures. The project successfully decreased regulated medical waste inside the hospital's ORs from 78% to 10% as well as increased recycling by 17% in their operating rooms from January to June 2015!

Contact Kelsey Hallowell at Kelsey@reductioninmotion.com

- **Johns Hopkins Hospital** continues to grow its Farmers Market; entering the third year with a total of 13 vendors—including four produce stands that offer fresh, healthy, and local produce. As JHH continues their effort to "avoid human harm" they have partnered with the Maryland Farmers Market Association (MDFMA) and are offering Maryland Market Money promotional events throughout the season, such as the "Healthy Habits @ Hopkins" tote give-a-ways that include recipes and cooking supplies. The Maryland Market Money is a program that matches federal nutrition benefits at the market, providing additional funding for our customers to purchase more at the market (and additional sales for our local farmers)! In 2015, JHH has increased distribution of the totes by 23% as compared to 2014! Contact Kelsey Hallowell at Kelsey@reductioninmotion.com

- Both **Sinai and Northwest Hospitals** are implementing a red bag communal collection program with assistance from their sustainability partner, Reduction In Motion. The hospitals collectively removed over 600 red cans throughout non-critical areas and implemented a communal “bag dispenser” program. By empowering their staff, both hospitals continue to reduce overall red bag waste as part of their Freedom to be Green sustainable programs. The hospitals have worked with local groups and Global Links to donate excess trash cans from these patient rooms for reuse! Additionally, as part of a complete renovation in the Bulk Stores Warehouse, **Northwest Hospital** diverted 100% (1,600 lbs) of the metal shelving, braces, and racks to metal recycling!
- **The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA)** began a new program to accelerate prevention and population-based strategies that will reduce chronic disease and health disparities. These efforts will contribute to building a strong base for evidence-based prevention programming across the nation. In Maryland, Danelle Buchman is the regional campaign manager to work specifically with likeminded stakeholders, as well as worksites and healthcare facilities who will work to promote nutrition and access to healthier food and beverages. Interested in learning more or technical assistance for your facility? Contact Danelle Buchman at Danelle.buchman@heart.org
- **Moveable Feast** is starting a five-year food planning process aimed at reducing use of processed foods and developing sustainable and local food sourcing practices. Moveable Feast is dedicated to providing the best quality product by assessing food production from start to finish. This process will involve evaluation of space utilization in their facility, food sourcing practices, gardening and gleaning produce, and management of food waste. For more information, contact Sara McClean at sara.mcclean@gmail.com
- **MedStar Montgomery Medical Center** held ten sustainability and wellness events this year including Two Employee Health Fairs, Go Red for Women Day, National Nutrition Month, Earth Day, Food Gardening Lunch and Learn, and Buy Local Week. Over 1000 associates and visitors attended the events and over 1000 tomato, herb and lettuce plants were given away to encourage associates and visitors to food garden and make healthier food choices by growing their own vegetables and herbs. As part of Buy Local Week, a celebration was held on July 23rd in the cafeteria where participants took a “farm tour” to area farms for local peaches, cheese, watermelon, blueberries, tomatoes, corn, squash, and freshly cut herbs. In addition, as a community benefit project, MedStar Montgomery partnered with Manna Food Center, the primary food bank in Montgomery County, to support their mission to fight hunger. Contact Wendy Smith at wsmith@medstarmontgomery.org

Pharmaceutical waste wiki*!

While the industry waits for the EPA and lawmakers to make a decision on proposed pharmaceutical [legislation](#), where is a healthcare provider to turn?

Visit the [Pharmaceutical Waste Wiki](#) page to collaborate with fellow healthcare professionals and get some answers.

The purpose of this Wiki site is to allow collaboration amongst healthcare professionals and stakeholders in determining whether the pharmaceuticals they discard meet the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) definition of hazardous wastes. Members of the healthcare professional community may register to contribute knowledge that will aid others in making hazardous waste determinations to ensure proper waste management. The hazardous waste generator category of your facility may vary by State. **If you are a healthcare professional, regulator, consultant, or member of an associated organization and would like to contribute to this Wiki, please visit the [Getting Started](#) page for more information.**

**What's a wiki? A wiki is a website that allows collaborative editing of its content/ structure by its users.*



Neurotoxins and the “School to Prison Pipeline”: Environmental Threats to Cognitive Development and School Success

The Maryland Environmental Health Network invites education and health policy-makers, advocates, and researchers to examine environmental health factors that pose risks to children's cognitive development and success in school.

August 11, 2015

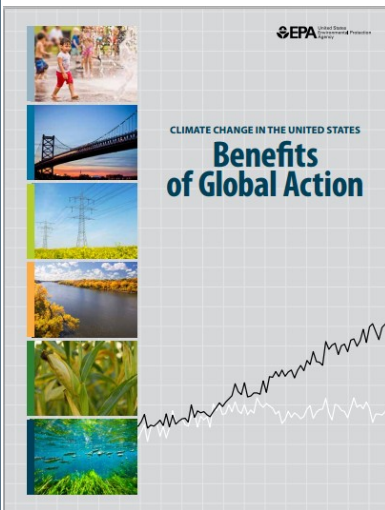
The Associated, 101 W Mt Royal Ave, Baltimore, MD 21201

* The Associated requests no outside food or water bottles

Jerome Paulson, MD, medical director for the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit Program Eastern Office, consultant to the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health & the Environment, and Professor Emeritus of the George Washington University Schools of Medicine and Public Health, will speak on neurocognitive risks to children in early development.

Additional panelists will join Dr. Paulson to examine specific factors in the Baltimore landscape and discuss the value of promoting more protective environments in communities and schools. **Contact [Allison Rich](#) to RSVP or for more information**

EPA Report: Climate change in the US



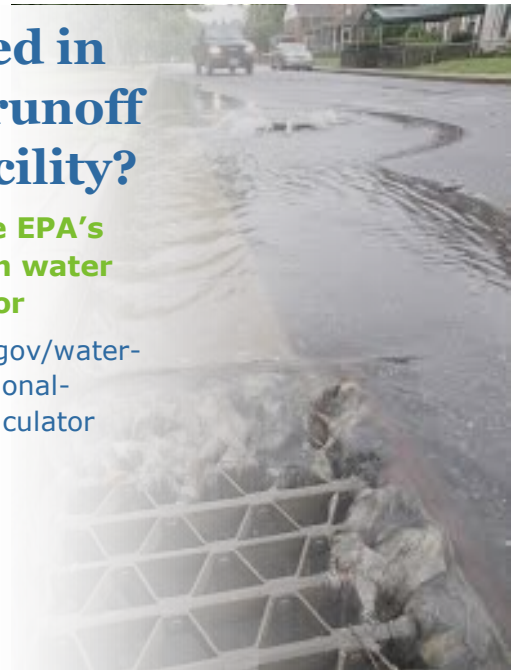
Benefits of Global Action

Visit
www2.epa.gov/cira
or click the image
to the left to
download the
report!

Interested in reducing runoff at your facility?

Check out the EPA's
national storm water
calculator

<http://www2.epa.gov/water-research/national-stormwater-calculator>



Why the healthcare industry must take the lead on climate change

The effects of climate change threaten decades of healthcare progress, and health leaders have a responsibility to help reduce energy consumption and frame the crisis as a health issue instead of a scientific or political one, [according to](#) a report published by the *Lancet*/UCL Commission on Health and Climate Change. Read [more](#) on the article in Fierce Healthcare.

SUSTAINABLE FOOD PAGE

Sustainable Food Procurement in health systems and large institutions

Maryland Campaign to Keep Antibiotics Working

Campaign Kick-off Meeting
September 10th

- Learn about the impact of antibiotic resistance on community health
- Meet neighbors, community/ corporate partners and lawmakers collaborating to stop the misuse of antibiotics in animal agriculture
- Engage with the experts

Location TBD. More details to come!

Contact: [Mae Wu](#), NRDC (202) 289-6868
[Rebecca Rehr](#), MdEHN (443) 668-7467



Maryland Campaign to Keep Antibiotics Working

Chesapeake Foodshed Network

Virtual Coffee Talk: *Learning and Connecting for Action*

Thursday, August 6, 9:00 - 9:45 AM EST

[Navigating SNAP and Matching Programs in Farmers Markets: Success and Challenges in Accepting Federal Nutrition Benefits. Steps to Developing an Advocacy Platform for 2016](#)

Co-hosts: Chesapeake Foodshed Network & Johns Hopkins Center for Livable Future

Resource Expert: Amy Crone, Maryland Farmers Market Association & Market Link

Presenters: Lauren Biel, DC Greens, & Representative from Wholesome Wave

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Accepting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP", formerly known as Food Stamps) in farmers markets helps low-income families and individuals access fresh, locally grown food and provides economic benefits to communities. But implementing a SNAP program at the farmers market or accepting it as a direct-marketing farmer comes with challenges such as technology hurdles, administrative burdens, and regulatory requirements.

Buy Local Week Celebration pictures



Photos courtesy of [Medstar Montgomery Medical Center](#) (left) and [Lifebridge Health](#) (right)



Food Day is October 24th

Join hospitals around the country in preserving the effectiveness of antibiotics in human medicine

Serve at least one meat or poultry item produced without routine antibiotics! Be on the lookout for information on how to register. For more info contact Gina at gnavarro@som.umaryland.edu, 410-706-2352.



Events & Updates

Maryland Public Health Association Annual Conference

Thursday, September 24

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

UMBC, University Center Ballroom

The Annual Conference has been established as an important forum for Maryland public health professionals of all backgrounds, whether in practice, academia, government, and/or research, to convene, learn, and network with peers. This year's conference, "Health in All Policies" highlights ongoing collaborative efforts between public health agencies and organizations and those who are best positioned to create policies in order to promote healthy communities and environments throughout Maryland.

Keynote speakers include:

- Howard Haft, MD, Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services, DHMH
- Leana Wen, MD, Baltimore City Health Commissioner
- Clarence Lam, MD, MPH, Maryland State Delegate

Click [here](#) to view the flyer. Click [here](#) to register.



New Website! Find us on Facebook!

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In addition to Twitter and LinkedIn, MD H2E is now on Facebook. Give us a "like" and join in the discussion. Have you visited our newly redesigned website? Take a look and tell us what you think! www.mdh2e.org

Greening the OR

Sponsored by Practice Greenhealth

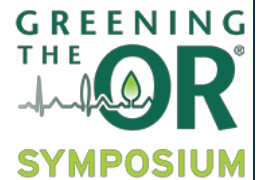
September 24, 2015

The Greening the OR Symposium celebrates progress and milestones made on the journey to promoting environmentally friendly practices in the operating room and invites new thinking in innovative ideas to overcome our challenges, and strategies that will result in new areas to address to drive further progress.

Learn about how to:

- Increase staff and patient safety
- Reduce costs and the triple bottom line
- Show senior leadership why this is an organizational imperative
- Highlight the value of vendor partnerships in driving successful sustainability programs

Maryland's own Justin Graves will be on the panel! Click [HERE](#) for more information.



SEPTEMBER 24, 2015
RESTON, VIRGINIA

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