



24 Sustainability Success Stories in 2024

Story 23 of 24: End-of-Year Reflections

Sustainability Teams Accomplish Fantastic Work at UPMC Hospitals

The UPMC Center for Sustainability supports sustainability teams at UPMC hospitals across Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New York. These teams, composed of passionate individuals, are dedicated to making sustainability changes within their hospitals. By bringing diverse perspectives together, they offer ideas, support, and feedback to drive meaningful change.

Each hospital's sustainability team uniquely addresses sustainability challenges, serving as a platform for pilot projects and initiatives that may not yet be feasible on a system-wide scale. Each team operates with its own structure and meeting frequency. To learn more about a specific sustainability team, you can reach out to sustainability@upmc.edu.

Sustainability teams have completed some great work since they started in mid-2023. Some notable projects include:

- Waste Reduction:
- [Swap shop on Viva Engage](#) and the surgical instrument swap app
- Printer Toner Recycling
- Plastic Bag Reduction
- Pillow Waste Reduction
- Water Refill Stations
- Kick the Can
- Food Donation:
- Mercy's Food Donations to Discharge Patients
- 412 Food Rescue
- Pitt Food Rescue Heroes
- Gardens:
- Herb Gardens
- Veggie gardens
- In-Person Clean Ups:
- Earth Day clean-ups
- Working with Adopt a Highway
- Fall Campus Clean-ups
- Pilot Projects
- Low-flow Anesthesia
- Daniels Waste pilot
- Reusable Blood Pressure Cuffs
- ABHR Scrubbing
- Nitrous Oxide through Tanks Pilot
- & Much More!

The sustainability Green Teams are always looking for new ideas and new members. If you would like to join a hospital's sustainability program or are interested in becoming a co-chair for a team, please [fill out this form](#) to be connected with the team lead.



To learn more about sustainability at UPMC, visit [the Sustainable UPMC Viva Engage](#) page, search for sustainability on Infonet, or [UPMC.com/Sustainability](https://www.upmc.com/Sustainability).