



24 Sustainability Success Stories in 2024

Story 24 of 24: End-of-Year Reflections

Reflections on 2024 and Looking Toward the Future in 2025

The 24 stories in 2024 are coming to a close. These stories were intended to highlight sustainability initiatives and successes across UPMC's service lines.

It has been a fantastic year. Our sustainability teams have done impressive work toward a more sustainable UPMC. 2024 was also the first year that UPMC filed a recycling report with the state of Pennsylvania, listing 19 different materials that made up 7,812 tons of recyclables. UPMC was one of 42 businesses that filed recycling tonnages to the Commonwealth of PA (and the only healthcare organization). Below are some awards UPMC won for sustainability in 2024, along with mini updates from the previous 24 in 2024 stories.

Awards Won in 2024:

- UPMC Northwest was one of 21 hospitals nationwide to receive the Energy to Care Sustainability Champion Award from the American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE).

Practice Greenhealth Awards:

- UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital was awarded the Partner for Change and Greening the OR awards
- UPMC Presbyterian was awarded the Partner for Change Award
- UPMC Shadyside was awarded the Partner for Change Award

Updates from the Previous 24 in 2024 articles:

- Regarding IT sustainability, we are now moving to [an e-faxing system-wide](#).
- "Kick the Can" has spread to more hospitals and offices. There is a [project sheet](#) created by the Center for Sustainability to follow if you are interested in implementing this initiative.
- [Tree Pittsburgh events](#) went well at Magee, Shadyside, and Presby this fall, with 225 free trees handed out to UPMC employees.
- [The low-flow anesthesia pilot](#) is going well with its expansion to other sites. UPMC is investing in piloting software in 59 machines that will automatically administer anesthesia at low flow.
- [Reusable Blood pressure cuffs](#) have been approved at more units across the system and will continue to expand systemwide in 2025.
- Many of the stories we featured are still ongoing. If you are interested in learning about a certain topic, create a post on Viva Engage.

In 2025, we will post monthly stories highlighting different hospitals and their sustainability initiatives. We will also post occasional stories about systemwide efforts and the individual and team efforts of people who do exceptional work to make a more sustainable UPMC.

We plan to continue working hard to make UPMC more sustainable and to lower UPMC's greenhouse gas emissions. We would love to hear from you and receive sustainability suggestions, or learn about the sustainability work you are already doing at UPMC. Please contact sustainability@upmc.edu.

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