

Welcome to Marianjoy's "Green" Newsletter

Going Green is Marianjoy's newsletter which focuses on the organizational efforts and initiatives that help our environment and sustainability. You will find useful information and tips on how you can help contribute at Marianjoy and at home.

2009 Green Efforts

In the second half of 2009, Marianjoy considerably reduced waste and emissions, saved water and energy, improved sanitation, and enhanced sustainability through a number of measures:

- ✓ Saved nearly 40,000 lbs. of paper and cardboard and more than 25,000 lbs. of glass plastic, and aluminum through recycling
- ✓ Collected and recycled more than 1,400 lbs. of used batteries
- ✓ Switched over from disposable under-pads and hamper liners to their reusable counterparts. Significant reductions to solid waste being land-filled.
- ✓ Converted from cotton rags and mops to their micro-fiber counterparts. Significant savings in the use of water and chemicals as buckets of dirty water/chemicals are no longer being poured down the drain and micro-fiber mops are used to clean only one patient room before they are washed and reused, significantly reducing the chance of cross-contamination.
- ✓ Conserved water by adding low-flush valves to two public restrooms on Garden level - flushing handle up uses 1.2 gallons per flush; flushing handle down uses 1.6 gallons per flush. Valves will likely be added to all public restrooms in the future.
- ✓ Motion-activated lights are used in linen chutes rooms on the units. Lights only turn on when someone is in the room and turn off after 5 minutes.

Go Green Tips

There are a number of things that you can do at Marianjoy to help the environment:

- ✓ **Recycle** - Recycling items such as paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, and aluminum, turns what would be waste into valuable resources. There are blue containers located throughout the Marianjoy campus where these materials can be placed. You can also recycle old batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9V) - a container for this purpose is located just outside the mailroom.
- ✓ **Reuse** - Reuse items whenever possible to save natural resources, reduce recycling costs and landfill waste. Be sure to reuse interoffice envelopes whenever possible. You can also reuse your metal water bottle from Marianjoy's 'Spring Fling' rather than buying bottled beverages.
- ✓ **Reduce** - When eating at the Marianjoy cafeteria, don't take the "to-go" styrofoam containers when you can eat in. You'll help to reduce styrofoam waste which takes hundreds of years to break down. When producing handouts for meetings, consider printing the document on both sides of the paper rather than just one - this will cut down use of paper by 50%.

Spring 2010

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Did You Know?

Marianjoy and Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare have received a number of awards from "Clean Air Counts" for reducing Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) released into the atmosphere.

New hospital patient rooms are equipped with monitoring-devices that reduce energy consumption when the room is vacant.

Got An Idea?

Have questions or ideas on how to add to Marianjoy's "green" initiatives?

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