



## 2008 NOTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### St. Elizabeth Medical Center Utica, NY



-  **NEW MOPPING SYSTEM** - Housekeeping Department replaced traditional mop & bucket floor cleaning with a new microfiber mopping system that uses water and cleaners more efficiently. The new system will annually reduce water consumption by approximately 50,000 gallons and chemical cleaner usage by 800 gallons resulting in savings of over \$8,000 each year.
-  **GREEN CLEANERS** - Housekeeping Department switched to environmentally-preferable "green cleaners." All of the new products are identified as "environmentally preferable" and three of them have earned Green Seal® certification.
-  **MEDICAL WASTE REDUCTION** - Through better waste segregation, the amount of regulated medical waste generated decreased significantly. The number of medical waste red bags used decreased by more than 20% resulting in over \$3,300 in savings.
-  **MERCURY EQUIPMENT ELIMINATION** - The Medical Center completed a program that began in 2006 to remove all mercury-containing clinical equipment and replace the items with non-mercury alternatives. Over 300 pieces of equipment were removed altogether.
-  **NEW BOILER FOR 2206 GENESEE STREET** - A new high-efficiency boiler was installed at the building owned by the Medical Center at 2206 Genesee Street. The new boiler will significantly reduce energy consumption for that building.
-  **COMPUTERS** - The IT Department continued its ongoing program to replace older high-energy usage computers and monitors with newer more energy-efficient, "greener" equipment. Replaced equipment was shipped to a computer recycling company where it was recycled at no charge.
-  **CARDBOARD RECYCLING** - The Medical Center continued its cardboard recycling efforts by recycling over 80 tons of cardboard in 2008.
-  **BOTTLE AND CAN RECYCLING** - The Medical Center's recycling efforts were expanded with the initiation of a program to collect and recycle beverage containers in the Cafeteria.
-  **OTHER RECYCLING** - The Medical Center continued recycling of office paper in high generation areas, fluorescent lamps, used oil, various batteries, scrap metal and electronic equipment.
-  **CARPPOOLING** - As gas prices reached record heights, the Medical Center started a carpooling database to allow employees to identify other staff for ride-sharing.
-  **CHEMICAL-FREE WINDOW WASHING** - A new method for exterior window washing was instituted that uses deionized water and requires no chemical cleaners.
-  **NEW LANDSCAPING** - To alleviate the loss of 20 trees that had to be removed for the construction of the new parking lot, 48 new trees and 276 new shrubs were planted around the new lot.