


ECOLE NATIONALE D'ADMINISTRATION CONCOURS D'ENTREE AU CYCLE SUPERIEUR		المدرسة الوطنية للإدارة مناظرة الدخول إلى المرحلة العليا
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READ THIS TEXT AND THEN ANSWER THE QUESTIONS WHICH FOLLOW

Greening Hospitals

- 1 "First, do no harm," has been the sacred formula of healthcare professionals for centuries. It's a perfectly good one, that serves as a reminder that bad things can happen even with the best of intentions.
- 2 Ironically, while hospitals are dedicated to healing, they can also have a negative impact on the patients and communities they serve. Healthcare is a highly energy-intensive business – hospitals are third only to food service and food sales in terms of consumption of energy per square foot in the U.S. Hospitals and medical centers also consume massive quantities of water and generate extraordinary quantities of waste. The environmental implications are amazing.
- 3 One response to these challenges is for hospitals to commit to "going green." There's already momentum toward more sustainable use of resources in homes and buildings around the globe, and medical facilities are an important part of that trend. There are so many ways a hospital can go green, ranging from the elimination of Styrofoam in their food service operations to the construction of new buildings with the latest sustainable features. Each hospital is likely to be a bit different in its approach due to its specific priorities and challenges.
- 4 Considering that healthcare facilities are among the top water consumers in any community, water conservation is a great way to reduce the environmental impact of a hospital while saving money at the same time. For example, low-flow faucets in hospital sinks can reduce consumption by one gallon (3.8 liters) per person per day, while low-flow shower heads can save four times that much.
- 5 Waste management is another very important strategy for any hospital's greening process. After labor costs, it is the second largest expense for most healthcare facilities. Medical centers in the U.S. produce more than 5.9 million tons of solid waste annually, which amounts to about \$10 billion annually in costs across the healthcare industry. It's estimated that 85 percent of hospital waste is non-regulated waste – the same kind of waste as any other large facility. Eliminating unnecessary purchases and properly sorting and recycling can go a long way to reducing waste.
- 6 Another area of concern is paper files. Making the switch to electronic medical records (EMRs) not only saves enormous amounts of paper, but has the added benefit of reducing labor hours and improving quality of care since EMRs reduce redundancies and allow for quick access to information across entire healthcare teams.

