



CHRISTIANA CARE HEALTH SYSTEM

EPA Presents Christiana Care with Trailblazer Award

First Delaware Hospital Honored for Reducing Environmental Footprint

Newark, DE – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 recognized Christiana Care Health System with a Trailblazer Award for environmental leadership on November 19. Christiana Care is the first Delaware hospital to receive this honor.

EPA Region 3 Administrator Shawn M. Garvin presented the award to Christiana Care President and CEO Dr. Bob Laskowski at a meeting of Christiana Care's Environmental Stewardship Committee meeting. The Environmental Stewardship Committee is comprised of a cross-section of employees from different departments who have led the charge to reduce Christiana Care's environmental footprint.

"It is part of Christiana Care's mission to care for our planet as we do for our community," says Dr. Laskowski. "Reducing the amount of waste we produce, cutting air emissions and recycling more is one more way we are transforming Christiana Care."

EPA's Trailblazer Award – now in its third year -- recognizes hospitals in Delaware and Pennsylvania that are serving as models for other hospitals and are showing leadership in a particular area of sustainability. Ten hospitals have received the 2009 Trailblazer Award for helping all area hospitals to reduce their environmental footprint.

"Through its aggressive program in sustainable materials management, Christiana Care has taken a leadership role in helping to move environmental protection into a new phase," said Garvin. "Waste prevention offers the greatest environmental benefits and provides substantial cost savings to organizations."

For the past three years, Christiana Care invested time and resources to reduce its environmental footprint. Recent successes include

- Negotiating a nine-year agreement to purchase 40 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually from the Iberdrola Renewables Locust Ridge II Wind Farm in Schuylkill and Columbia, Pennsylvania, Counties. Beginning January 1, 2010, the wind farm will provide clean, renewable power that will satisfy between 30 and 40 percent of Christiana Care's electricity needs.
- Recycling 1.4 million pounds of paper, cardboard, plastic, cans and bottles were recycled in fiscal year 2009.
- Re-using sharps containers throughout Christiana Care, reducing plastics waste.
- Reducing medical waste generated in fiscal year 2009 by 34% from fiscal year 2008.
- Cutting air emissions by 49% from fiscal year 2008 to fiscal 2009.

The EPA Trailblazer Award is Christiana Care's fourth environmental award in the past two years. Christiana Hospital and Wilmington Hospital received the Making Medicine Mercury Free Award in 2007 and 2009 respectively. This past year, Practice Greenhealth honored Christiana Hospital with its Partner for Change Award.

-30-

About Christiana Care Health System

Christiana Care Health System is one of the nation's largest health care providers, serving Delaware and neighboring areas in Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. A not-for-profit teaching hospital, Christiana Care is recognized as a regional center for excellence in cardiology, cancer and women's health services, as well as for its Level-I trauma care and Level-3 neonatal intensive care (both highest capability).

Christiana Hospital is the only Level I trauma center between Philadelphia and Baltimore. Christiana Care includes two hospitals with 1,100 patient beds, a home health care service, preventive medicine, rehabilitation services, a network of primary care physicians and an extensive range of outpatient services.

With more than 10,000 employees, Christiana Care is the largest private employer in Delaware and the 10th largest employer in the Philadelphia region. Find more information at www.christianacare.org.