



ENCOURAGING  
Environmental  
EXCELLENCE

## Encouraging Environmental Excellence Achievement Level Recognition

*June 13, 2017*

The Ohio EPA Encouraging Environmental Excellence Program targets those who reduce waste, improve efficiency and work to continuously improve as an environmental steward. The program has a four-level approach to provide recognition to Ohio businesses and other organizations completing environmentally beneficial activities. Higher levels of recognition are for those who exceed regulatory requirements or commit to future environmental stewardship efforts. The Achievement Level recognizes any applicants completing environmentally beneficial activities. Any business, trade association, professional organization or local government in Ohio may apply. Achievement Level participants must demonstrate significant progress in one of eight environmental stewardship criteria: Impact to the environment; pollution prevention; energy efficiency; renewable energy; renewable, recovered or recycled materials; green building; recycling programs or organics diversion. Achievement Level participants must also demonstrate some level of progress in at least six additional environmental stewardship criteria and indicate they are in compliance with environmental laws and regulations.

Ohio EPA is recognizing the following organization that successfully met the criteria for the Achievement Level of the Encouraging Environmental Excellence Program. Below is a summary of their efforts.

**Barnesville Hospital (Barnesville):** Barnesville Hospital serves Belmont County in Appalachian Ohio as a federally-designated critical access hospital serving an area where 15% of the 70,000 population lives below the federal poverty line. The hospital has increased its Energy Star score from 19 in 2010 to its current outstanding score of 99. A certified Energy Star hospital, Barnesville had an improvement of 31.58% in energy efficiency from 2015 to 2016. Barnesville replaced all incandescent and T-12 lighting with LED's and its recent construction projects meet LEED specifications including a hospital-wide update of its mechanical operating system. Barnesville has a robust recycling program and its dietary department has a composting program. The facility also has policies in place to eliminate the use of mercury, glutaraldehyde, and ethylene oxide (a known carcinogen previously used as a sterilizer). The hospital purchasing policy specifies environmentally preferred products including green cleaning chemicals and Energy Star rated products. Barnesville Hospital has achieved these results despite challenging financial constraints of its region.

For more information about the Encouraging Environmental Excellence Program and the four levels of recognition, visit [www.epa.ohio.gov/ohioE3.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ohioE3.aspx) or call (800) 329-7518.