



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.

Fairfield Medical Center (Lancaster): Fairfield Medical Center is a 222-registered bed hospital serving about 250,000 residents in Fairfield, Perry, Hocking, and Athens counties and employs about 2,000 persons. Fairfield participates in OHA's Energy Star benchmarking project, and has replaced all incandescent and T-12 lightbulbs with more efficiency lighting. Fairfield has an extensive recycling program. The dietary department has a food donation, can and plastic recycling and substitution programs. Fairfield has a hospital-wide sustainability program that includes electronics, battery, fluorescent, alcohol, xylene, formalin, paint, x-ray film, and silver recycling. Pharmaceutical waste is minimized through reverse distribution. Lead aprons are recycled or reused. Sharps containers are reusable. Fairfield's red bag waste program has reduced red bag waste to less than 10% of the total waste stream. The hospital has eliminated mercury. Fairfield's purchasing program gives preference to Energy Star rated products. Fairfield has also installed a green roof on its surgical addition and uses locally grown food sources.

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