

Sustainability Action Plan 2023–25



Our Values and Commitment to Sustainability

St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) recognizes that our activities and business relationships have an effect on the economy, environment and people, and in turn make negative or positive contributions to sustainable development. We define sustainable development as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We strive to provide transparency on how our organization contributes to sustainable development. To that end we are committed to the implementation of a sustainability plan as part of our commitment to the people of our community and beyond.

This commitment is in keeping with SJHH's values of:

Dignity, Respect, Service, Justice, **Responsibility** and Enquiry.

St Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton approaches its sustainability efforts through the following four pillars with the overall collective objective of meeting the federal and provincial mandates to reduce 40% of our carbon footprint by 2030 and to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Four Pillars of Sustainability

Energy/ Utility Management

Waste Reduction

Pollution Management

Education and Awareness

We will develop, implement and invest in initiatives across these pillars in order to achieve our sustainability objectives. Our ability to influence and impact is greatest in these pillars when we apply them to our facilities, our model of care and our use of supplies, equipment and energy.

Our large facility footprint, varied patient care initiatives, supporting business lines, and employee base give us both a green responsibility and opportunity to address, mitigate and support important social, environmental, and economic challenges while improving the hospital's brand within our community. By working diligently through its stakeholders at all levels across our organization, we are aligned to build a greener more sustainable future.

2023-24 Sustainability Action Plan

Pillar 1 – Energy/Utility Management

By April 2024 we will have:

1. Implemented the following energy savings projects, reducing our annual Green House Gas (GHG) emissions by 278 Carbon Dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) tonnes:

Description	Energy Savings	Annual Cost Savings (\$)	GHG Reduction (Tonnes)
LED Lighting Retrofit (King St)	30,697 kWh	4,376	1.54
LED Lighting Retrofit (Charlton -Fontbonne)	2,450 kWh	654	0.12
LED Lighting Retrofit (Charlton - Mary Grace)	31,490 kWh	5,305	1.58
LED Lighting Retrofit (Charlton - Martha)	14,960 kWh	2,900	0.74
Blowdown Heat Recovery (Charlton)	1,219 GJ	12,400	58.9
Existing Building Optimization (Charlton)	3,930 GJ	39,000	190
Replace 20 fan motor drives to reduce speed when possible (Charlton)	400,000 kWh	44,000	25
Parking P8 lighting control switched to photocell (West 5 th)	5,652 kWh	774	0.14
TOTAL		109,409	278

2. Implemented the following water reduction strategy:
 - Installation of a Watergater within the Juravinski Tower (Charlton) resulting in a reduction of water consumption by 20%
3. Initiated electrical reduction projects through the provincial Save on Energy (SEM) Program
4. Completed and submitted the 2023 (2022 data) Green Hospital Scorecard for the Charlton and King St. Campuses
5. Completed and submitted the P3 Greening Healthcare Scorecard for West 5th Campus
6. Participated in the Industry Conservation Initiative (ICI) for the Charlton and West 5th Campuses
7. Initiated and progressed the heat recovery project to the installation phase (to be completed as part of 2024/25 sustainability plan)
8. Developed a business case for the following:
 - Gas, steam and electric submetering initiative
 - LED lighting retrofit King Campus, Juravinski, Surgery Centre, Bishop Dowling and Luke wings of the Charlton Campus
 - Solar panels on a new carport at King Campus

Pillar 2 – Waste Reduction

By April 2024 we will have:

1. Maintained or improved the following waste reduction strategies:
 - Transition from disposable dishware, plastic/foam meal trays to reusable safety trays, mugs and tumblers
 - Reduced individually packaged products from vendors (i.e., individual juice, individual fruit in plastic containers) with products in bulk packaging
 - Bought food products in bulk wherever possible
 - Diverted waste to landfill with the following initiatives:
 - single use plastics- dishes, cups, plastic cutlery, lids
 - sharps
 - blue bin recycling
 - shredded paper
 - electronics/e-waste
 - batteries
 - organic waste
 - coffee grounds
 - scrap metal
 - florescent tube and compact florescent tube recycling onsite via a “Teracycle Bulb Eater”
2. Maintained or improved the following food waste reduction strategies:
 - reduced food waste and maximized diversion to organics where applicable
 - reduced the environmental impact from animal/meat-based menu options

Pillar 3 – Pollution Management

By April 2024 we will have:

1. Developed a business case for an anesthesia gases absorption system to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere
2. Investigated, developed and implement potential sustainable nephrology initiatives, starting with Six Nations

Pillar 4 – Education and Awareness

By April 2024 we will have:

1. Developed a multi-year (2023-25) Sustainability Action Plan
2. Completed an Annual Sustainability and Performance Report for 2023-24
3. Developed and implemented an Earth day staff awareness campaign in time for Earth day (April 22, 2024)
4. Developed and implemented a staff awareness plan for sustainability initiatives using various methods including:
 - implementing Firstline (mobile and web app), to improve appropriate antimicrobial utilization
5. Developed a corporate green/sustainability policy
6. Shared information on inhaler reduction strategies to the Firestone physicians

2024-25 Draft Sustainability Action Plan

For the 2024-25 Sustainability Action Plan we will look to the following initiatives:

Pillar 1 – Energy/Utility Management

1. Investigate renewable energy initiatives for SJHH and incorporate into future sustainability plans if supported:
 - Wind turbines
2. Implement energy initiatives to reduce electricity, greenhouse gas emissions, and use of natural gas:
 - Reduction of 3,008 tonnes GHG as a result of completing the Condensing Heat Recovery Project
3. Develop a plan to fund sustainability initiatives reduction based on supported and approved water reduction initiatives
4. Develop targets based on reduction initiatives for:
 - Greenhouse gas reduction
 - Water reduction
 - Electricity reduction
 - Natural gas reduction
 - Greenhouse gases (GHG) reduction

Pillar 2 – Waste Reduction

1. Develop and implement an environmentally preferred purchasing policy
2. Installation of water bottle refill stations at each campus
3. Investigate green-friendly initiatives for the pharmacy service
4. Investigate green-friendly initiatives for the surgical program

Pillar 3 – Pollution Management

1. Develop and implement a strategy of pollution management/reduction

Pillar 4 – Education and Awareness

1. Educate SJHH Green Team members, staff, physicians, learners and volunteers regarding measures to improve energy conservation and green environmental practices
2. Develop an Environmental Awareness Program
3. Develop and implement an Earth day staff awareness campaign in time for Earth month (April 2025)
4. Develop 2024/25 Annual Sustainability Report