



Green Guide for Health Care Newsletter

November 2005

Green Guide Tips

Simple How-To's for using the Guide

How To Have an Impact on *Green Guide* v2.2 Content Development

1. Sign up your project/facility as a *Green Guide* Pilot.

Projects may sign up as *Green Guide* Pilots at any stage in design, construction or operations. The majority of *Green Guide* Pilots use both the *Construction* and *Operations* sections. Pilot projects commit to attempting to fulfill all *Green Guide* prerequisites and as many credits as possible, based on the project details, stage of completion, financial considerations, and learning curve.

2. Participate in the Forum

Once a project/facility becomes a Pilot, it enters a community of professionals across the US, Canada, and internationally who are working towards common goals. The GGHC Forum acts as a point of contact for project teams to interact with their counterparts and to inform the v2.2 development process.

3. Comment on current *Green Guide* credits

Pilots share their real-world experience with the Steering Committee by posting comments and questions on the Forum. The Steering Committee uses the Forum as a vehicle to help establish the feasibility, applicability, and complexity of fulfilling *Green Guide* credits. The Pilot community represents a cross-section of the healthcare industry, from acute care hospitals to retirement communities to medical office buildings in diverse geographic regions and of varying scales. As the Steering Committee undertakes the v2.2 revision process, input from a broad range of stakeholders is vitally important.

4. Criteria for changes in v2.2 content

The *Green Guide* Steering Committee will consider the following criteria when they evaluate the *Construction* section in early February 2006:

- Credit certifiability: how does a project know when the intent of the credit has been attained?
- Applicability to Additions/Renovations: how should certain credits adapt to the realities of additions and renovations?
- Suggested Documentation: are there more efficient, flexible, and relevant ways to document the credits?
- Resources: what additional resources should be added?

Green Guide Spotlight

Success stories from *Green Guide* Pilots and Registrants

Water Conservation: Oregon Health & Science University Lessons Learned

Mazzetti & Associates, Perkins + Will and PKA Architects worked with OHSU to tackle one of the most difficult sections of the *Green Guide*, Water Efficiency, in several ways. First, water fixture usage was reduced by installing low-flow fixtures and automatic sensors throughout the building. Second, a pump was installed in the storm water retention tank to allow flexibility for use in landscape irrigation.

Third, and of particular note, the design team worked with OHSU to try and reduce sterilizer cooling water usage by directing the runoff from the steam sterilizers to a closed loop tempering system utilizing heat exchangers and process chilled water to minimize the volume of water required to cool the sterilizer water. Unfortunately, the team had already selected a manufacturer who had not developed a product that easily converts to this system. In the wake of this experience, the team discovered other manufacturers who have begun producing appropriate equipment. They have also begun to actively pursue market transformation in other areas by working with manufacturers during design to make modest adjustments in their products that accommodate green strategies such as water and energy efficiency.

For more information on this project, contact Mazzetti & Associates Principal Walt Vernon, waltvern@mazzetti.com

News

1. **Help the *Green Guide* revise credit language in preparation for version 2.2**, scheduled to be released in late 2006. All Pilot projects are encouraged to post comments on the *Green Guide* Forum. Comments may address *Green Guide* content in general or specific credits. Consider registering your project as a *Green Guide* Pilot to inform the v2.2 development process.
2. **Monthly *Green Guide* teleconferences in 2006!** The *Green Guide for Health Care* is partnering with Hospitals for a Healthy Environment to offer teleconferences on specific *Green Guide* topics every first Friday of the month in 2006. Visit www.h2e-online.org for more information.
3. **Introductory *Green Guide* PowerPoint Presentation now available!** Visit the [Download](#) page for a free copy. A case study presentation is also available on the Download page as a pdf.
4. ***Green Guide* version 2.1 has been released in print and on our website.** Visit the *Green Guide* [Download](#) page to purchase printed copies through our Online Store or to download the electronic PDF version for free.
5. **Need help implementing the *Green Guide* on your project?** Join the growing number of health care facilities taking advantage of the complimentary resources provided by the *Green Guide* framework for facility planning, design, construction and operations. Sign up your project as a Pilot at www.gghc.org/participate.cfm.
6. **The Greater New York Hospital Association** is running a Briefing on Environmentally Friendly Building, Design, and Construction in Health Care Facilities on December 8. Visit the [Events](#) page for more information.
7. **Hospitals for a Healthy Environment awards deadline is February 10, 2006.** Visit www.h2e-online.org/events/teleconf/index.cfm for more information.
8. **The AIA/COTE Top Ten Green Projects Award deadline is January 31, 2006.** Winners will be presented and celebrated at the AIA 2006 National Convention in Los Angeles. Visit www.aia.org for more information.
9. **Visit the [Supporters](#) section of the *Green Guide* website for information on how to support our work.** All donations to the *Green Guide* are tax deductible.