



Syracuse VA Medical Center  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EPA Recognizes Syracuse VA Medical Center with  
Federal Green Challenge Award**

**Recognition comes in the areas of Purchasing, Energy and Water**

**Syracuse, NY**-The Syracuse VA Medical Center has been recognized by EPA Region 2 as an award winner in the 2013 Federal Green Challenge.

The Federal Green Challenge is a national effort under the US Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Materials Management Program challenging EPA, and other federal agencies throughout the country, to lead by example in reducing the Federal Government's environmental impact.

Federal offices or facilities participate by selecting a minimum two of the six target areas, waste, electronics, purchasing, energy, water, or transportation. Members commit to an improvement goal of at least 5% per year in their selected target areas.

Hospital energy manager, Mike Arnold said the medical center reduced electricity their usage by more than 8%, even while activating an additional wing to the hospital. The net result is an electricity density reduction of over 20%, which is a significant step for the medical center to meet the 30% reduction in its energy intensity goal.

“It’s an honor to receive this award which recognizes the medical center’s commitment to a better environment. We challenge our employees to be good stewards of the environment, whether it’s using less paper, conserving energy and water, or recycling more, so that we can reduce our impact on the environment”, said Kevin Hartman, Syracuse VA environmental engineer.

More information about this program is available at  
<http://www.epa.gov/federalgreenchallenge/index.html>