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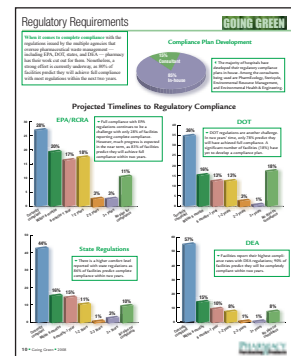
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From the Publisher

The Importance of Going Green

As a supplement to our July issue, *PP&P* is proud to bring you the results of our first “Going Green” survey, in which we polled a random, nationwide pool of health-system pharmacists to learn more about hospitals’ commitment to environmentally sound policies and purchasing practices. The data, presented in easy-to-read charts and graphs, reveals a great deal of interest on the part of today’s hospitals to reduce their environmental impact, as well as valuable opportunities for improvement in this area. It is our hope that our readers will use this data to identify potential advancements for their own institutions.



Going forward, expect to see a bigger focus on environmental issues on the pages of *PP&P*. Watch for articles that provide guidance on building environmental responsibility into your purchasing practices, for example.

Other tools can aid pharmacists in achieving environmental responsibility in the workplace. Practice Greenhealth (www.h2e-online.org) runs a listserv that allows its subscribers to share information to facilitate environmental improvements. In addition, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s Pharmwaste listserv (<http://lists.dep.state.fl.us/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/pharmwaste>) serves as a forum for the discussion of issues surrounding pharmaceutical waste management and its impact on the environment.

But the importance of “greener” practices does not decrease outside the walls of a hospital. In fact, it is just as vital to comprehend our individual environmental impact. As a means to this end, the Berkeley Institute of the Environment has developed the CoolClimate Carbon Footprint Calculator (<http://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/>), which allows you to determine your annual carbon footprint, based on your means of transportation, your household, and the food, goods, and services you consume.

We offer our thanks to the 203 health-system pharmacists who responded to our “Going Green” survey. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated. *PP&P* will conduct additional surveys this year, so if you have not yet had the opportunity to contribute to our nationwide pool of data on pharmacy practice, be on the look out for future opportunities to be a part of it!

All the Best,

R. Mitchell Halvorsen
Publisher