

## Environment of Care (EC) Team:

### Diane Carillo

Associate Director  
Support Services Division

### Jill Kavoukian, CHSP

Hospital Safety Officer  
Associate Director, EH&S

### David Roy, CFPS

Hospital Fire Safety Manager

### Scott Law

Director of Operations  
University Police

### David Darnel, CCE, JD

Director of Biomedical  
Engineering

### Leo DeBobes, CSP

Assistant Administrator  
Emergency Management

### James Prudenti

Director of Physical Plant

### Robert Weniger

EOC Coordinator of Offsite  
Properties

### Kathy Terwilliger

Environmental Rounds  
Coordinator

## EDITOR

Carol Malley

## ASSISTANT EDITOR

Rebecca Woskoff

## STAFF WRITERS

EOC Subcommittee Members  
EH&S Healthcare Staff

## Emergency Numbers:

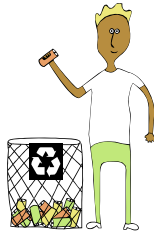
Dial 911 or 632-3333 (cell phone)

Non-Fire Emergencies 911  
(Major Chemical Spill/HazMat)

All Codes 321

Fire (Code Red) 321

## We Need Your Help!



We have made great strides in reducing our solid waste over the this past year. Food and Nutritional Services implemented the use of silverware for retail and patient operations. The program to date has shown a reduction in plastic ware purchases by 800 cases. This year can and bottle recycling was initiated in the retail operation.

Beverage cans and #1 & #2 plastic bottles are being collected in the cafeteria. This program needs your help because we continue to see bottles and cans placed in the regular waste stream. Please segregate these containers and discard in the appropriate bin. We need your help to reach our goal of reducing our solid waste by 25%. We appreciate your support.

*Jill Kavoukian, Hospital Safety Officer*

## Laboratory Emergency Signs Posted

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger

The Laboratory Safety Committee recently completed a long term project this past December, posting laboratory emergency information signs at the entrance of each hospital laboratory. The signs provide emergency contact and hazards information for emergency responders or for others encountering a lab emergency. Funding for the signs and frames was provided by the Department of Environmental Health & Safety. A comment from one of the lab staff included "What a beautiful job--I

know this took a long time and lots of thought--I think the sign is perfect--it is very helpful and for us describes the hazards and contacts clearly--thanks!!!"



Pictured left to right: Michele Gilleeny-Blabac, Chris Munz, Kathy Terwilliger

## Do you Have Fire Wardens in Your Unit?

Contributed by David Roy



Per Hospital policy, each separate fire evacuation area within the hospital shall have a Fire Warden on duty. This person is critical to the effective implementation of the

hospital's fire plan. If you are a manager of an area, check to make sure you have proper coverage; if not, call the fire marshals' office at 4-6752 for the Fire Warden training schedule.



## “You Got Caught Being Safe” 2007 Recipients

Congratulations to the following employees who received our “You Got Caught Being Safe” recognition:

### September winners:

Bryan Fowler, Cardiac Telemetry/CTICR  
Larry Gerard, Physical Plant  
Mike Cullen, Physical Plant  
Michael Broccolo, Physical Plant  
Simone Jerrick, 15N  
Mike Sandomenico, ECPP

### October winners:

Roger Smith, Blood Bank  
Steven Burgardt, BME

Anthony Lovingood, HVAC Consultant  
Joseph Zaccarro, Chemistry

### November winners:

John Garafolo, Physical Plant  
Keith Reichl, Physical Plant  
John Perewoznik, HSC Physical Plant  
James Molinelli, HSC Physical Plant  
Chris Ryan, HSC Physical Plant  
Kevin Lorio, Facilities

### December winners:

Sydney Bryan, Receiving  
Josette Desir, Endoscopy  
Karen Bayer-Licon, Endoscopy

Sandy Tse, Immunology  
Rebecca Connor, Immunology  
Corinne Leombruno, Immunology  
Ursula O’Neil, Histology  
Maryanne Kania, Histology

From suggesting new safety signage, planning for waste during contract preparation, bringing environmental initiatives to our attention, assisting with inspections, and sharing safety programs, are just a few ways staff are caught being safe.

***Continue being safe and we will continue to “catch” you.***

**Question:** Do you know where to dispose of empty beverage cans and bottles?

**Answer:** Market Place Café Recycling Receptacles located next to trash containers.

## Hazardous Waste Storage Area Renovations Completed

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger



(From left to right): Kathy Terwilliger, Jill Kavoukian, Carol Malley, Star Rupinski, Jim Molinelli, Stephanie Davis, Anthony Lovingood, David Roy. Not pictured: Gary Kaczmarczyk, Pat Paez, John Perewoznik.

Throughout 2007, many renovations were made to the hazardous waste storage room

located on the loading dock of the HSC to ensure regulatory compliance and improve its overall condition. The renovations included the installation of epoxy flooring, a berm, a new door and a fresh coat of paint. The paint, provided by the Hospital Physical Plant, was left over and was destined for disposal. Many thanks to Hospital Facilities/Physical Plant staff, HSC Physical Plant staff and Triumvirate (our hazardous waste contractor) for their assistance on this project.

## Staff Spotlight

Contributed by David Roy



Anthony Todaro, who is the hospital’s evening fire marshal, was recently appointed as 3rd Assistant Fire Chief for the Setauket Fire Department. This promotion speaks to the skill and professionalism of Anthony who provides fire and life safety services to the hospital, both on and off duty. Congratulations Anthony!

## Ergonomic Office Equipment Available

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger



Thanks to the Ergonomics and Environment of Care committees, basic ergonomic equipment is available for hospital staff including wrist gel pads, document holders, monitor risers, back rests, foot rests, mouse pads, and anti-glare filters. Several ergonomics assessments have already been conducted and the results so far have been positive. Robin McKeefrey is one of our success stories. To quote Robyn, "I had such debilitating carpal tunnel pain radiating from my right forearm down to



my hand for months that there were days I could not type at my computer at all. I obtained a keyboard gel pad and a specially padded mouse pad from the ergonomics committee and my pain is now completely gone. I can type at my computer for hours without pain. I feel like a new person...Thanks ergonomics committee!!" Please contact EH&S at 4-6783 to request an ergonomics assessment of your computer workstation.



## 2007 Environmental Rounds Lessons Learned

Contributed by Kathy Terwilliger



The top 5 issues noted during Environmental Rounds in 2007 are listed below along with how we all can improve:

1. Area needed cleaning - contact Hospital Custodial Services (HCS) at 4-1457 for housekeeping support.
2. Vents were rusty or need cleaning - contact HCS for external cleaning or Hospital Physical Plant at 4-2400 for rust or internal cleaning.
3. Oxygen cylinders were not properly stored - keep cylinders secured on racks, labeled empty and full, segregated empty and full, and no more than 12 cylinders.
4. Ceiling tile were not in good condition (stained or damaged) - contact Hospital Physical Plant to repair any active leaks and replace tile.
5. Linen chute was not secured - do not write code on linen room door and contact Hospital Physical Plant if linen room door or chute door is broken.

## New York Law Prohibits Sale of Mercury Products

Contributed by Carol Malley

According to New York State's Mercury-Added Consumer Products Law, products should not be sold, offered for sale or distributed free of charge with mercury added on or after the dates shown below:

- Jan. 1, 2005, mercury thermometers except by prescription written by a physician.
- Jan. 1, 2005, elemental mercury unless purchaser signs a statement assuring the product is used only for medical, pre-encapsulated dental amalgam, research or

manufacturing purposes.

- Jan 1, 2006, mercury barometer, mercury esophageal dilators, mercury flow meters, mercury hygrometers, and mercury pyrometers.
- Jan. 1, 2007, mercury hydrometer or mercury manometer.
- Jan. 1, 2008, mercury switch or mercury relay.

Remember to verify with your suppliers and contractors before purchasing or installing mercury containing products.





## America Recycles

Contributed by Carol Malley

On November 15th, the Hospital joined with the University in promoting New York Recycles. New York Recycles is part of the national America Recycles 2007 campaign, one of the most comprehensive recycling awareness campaigns in the nation. EH&S asked staff members and visitors to take the recycling pledge. Participants signed the pledge cards which encouraged the following:

- I will recycle at home, work and/or school.
  - I will buy recycled-content products and packaging.
  - I will purchase environmentally friendly products.
  - I will try composting at home.
  - I will leave my grass clippings on the lawn.
  - I will encourage others to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- Pledgers were entered into a New York State drawing for a trip to

Orlando or \$500 gift certificate for recycled furniture. It was encouraging to hear that many participants were already doing most of the pledge items and more. People were eager to share their stories and the enthusiasm was contagious. The Orlando trip winner was Lauren Hughes, Cohocton, NY and Ana Topolovec, Stony Brook won the \$500 gift certificate for recycled furniture.

## King or Queen of Green

Contributed by Yvonne Walsh



Would you like to be the King or Queen of Green? Environmental Health & Safety is conducting a contest in 2008 to recognize a staff member who embraces the principles of

reuse, recycling and waste reduction.

How can you enter the contest? Briefly summarize your environmental initiative/idea and how it was accomplished. Submit

it to Yvonne Walsh, EH&S, Level I HSC Room 059, Z=8017 or [yvonne.walsh@stonybrook.edu](mailto:yvonne.walsh@stonybrook.edu) prior to 11-30-08. At the end of the year we will celebrate and crown our King or Queen of Green. Good Luck!

## Green Resolution for 2008?

Contributed by Yvonne Walsh

Happy New Year! Did you make a Green Resolution for 2008? If so, why not submit it for the King/Queen of Green contest (see article above.) If not, consider some of the following ideas:

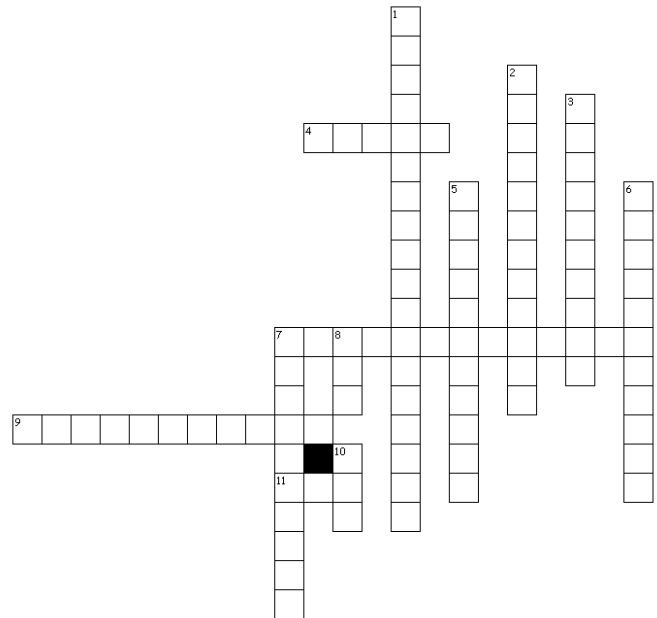
1. Purchase recycled products for your office provided the cost does not exceed 10% of the non-recycled cost:
  - office paper
  - business cards
  - file folders
2. Use reusable products such as:
  - spiral notebooks
  - message pads
  - greeting cards
  - paper towels
  - napkins
  - facial tissue
3. Purchase only what you expect to use.
4. Ask suppliers/manufacturers to supply products with reduced packaging.
5. Switch from a hazardous product to a less hazardous or green product.

These are just a few examples. I am sure that many of you are already doing some very innovative programs. Please share your experiences and successes with us and you can be the King/Queen of Green.



## Who's Who In Recycling, Reuse and Using Our Resources Wisely

Contributed by Carol Malley



### Across

4. We initiated a program to reduce the changing and laundering of bed sheets.
7. We requested a can/bottle recycling container for our staff lounge. EH&S is working with Hospital Custodial Services, University Recycling, and Healthcare Epidemiology on this program.
9. We use formaldehyde-free plywood and medium density fiberboard.
11. We suggested recycling #5 plastic saline bottles. EH&S is looking into finding a recycler.

### Down

1. We are exploring a program to reduce our use of blue wrap by purchasing reusable containers.
2. We recycle metal.
3. We incorporated green building design into the ACP and Major Mod.
5. We have a can/bottle recycling container in the Market Place Cafe.
6. We reprocess medical equipment.
7. We recycle xylene and ethanol.
8. We reuse packaging material and are a collection area for non-alkaline batteries.
10. We purchase Green Seal glass cleaner and floor stripper.



Didn't see your department in the puzzle? It could be because:

- We don't know about your initiatives—email [carol.malley@stonybrook.edu](mailto:carol.malley@stonybrook.edu) or send in your program for the Queen or King of Green to [yvonne.walsh@stonybrook.edu](mailto:yvonne.walsh@stonybrook.edu).
- Haven't thought of a program yet - it's easy when you start thinking recycle, reuse, reduce and use our resources wisely. Come up with a plan and then let us know.

**Across:** 4. Linen, 7. Labor/Delivery, 9. Cabinetshop, 11. ASC  
**Down:** 1. CSSHealthcareEpi, OR, 2. Construction, 3. Facilities, 5. Food Service, 6. SupplyChain, 7. Laboratory, 8. BME, 10. HCS

## Patient Decontamination Team – Calling All Staff

Contributed by Connie Kraft, RN MSN CEN

The capacity and capability to perform patient decontamination is part of our hospital's comprehensive emergency management plan. In the event of a hazardous materials (HAZMAT) incident, we need to be prepared to triage, treat, decontaminate and medically screen patients presenting to the hospital. A HAZMAT incident may be the result of an industrial or transportation accident where victims are exposed to leaks or spills of hazardous substances. A HAZMAT could also result from terrorist events like a chemical gas release or a dirty bomb.

Our Emergency Medical Services Department stores and maintains the necessary equipment for setting up the decontamination process. Inflatable tents with built in showers can be deployed within minutes of notification. Patient decontamination takes place outside of the hospital in order to prevent and protect against contaminating our emergency department and other inside areas. We can also deploy our portable decontamination trailer which is a self-contained unit ready to operate at any location with nearby water access. Having

the proper equipment at the ready is an important part of our plan, but only half the equation.



Trained hospital staff are needed to respond to the decontamination site (most likely level 4, outside the emergency department) to perform triage, treatment and decontamination. Although the medical staff (physicians, nurses, CAs, etc.) are an important part of the decontamination team who are able to assess and treat the ill and injured victims, all other team members include non-clinical staff who provide the necessary manpower to keep the decontamination process running safely and efficiently. The Facilities and Security departments both have staff trained in patient decontamination, but the team needs more members!

During the month of March, the Emergency Management Department will be recruiting and coordinating training opportunities for Hospital staff

who would like to join the Decontamination Team. All departments are welcome to participate. Training includes both classroom presentations and practical sessions. Staff members learn about various hazardous substances and their effects on people. They are trained to "suit up" in the proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and decontaminate live victims.



Performing safe and correct patient decontamination, especially for large numbers of victims, requires a response plan, proper equipment, and trained personnel; and most importantly PRACTICE. Participating in drills and exercises is an important part of being a member of the patient decontamination team. For more information or to register for the next training session in March, please call the Emergency Management Department at 444-9704.