



2025 Environmental Stewardship Report

Health for a Better World





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DEAR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND PARTNERS,

It is our honor to present Providence's 2025 Environmental Stewardship Annual Report. In Laudato Si', Pope Francis reminds us that the Earth is not simply a resource to be managed, but a shared home entrusted to our care. His message calls for a proactive commitment to environmental health, human health and social justice.

Aligned with our core value of justice, environmental stewardship at Providence embodies Pope Francis' message as work of action, leadership and collaboration. By considering environmental impacts in care delivery, we protect our patients and preserve our communities in support of our vision of Health for a Better World.

In 2025, we announced our 2030 strategic direction: to be the best place to give and receive care, create the delivery model for the future and drive focused innovation for positive change. Environmental stewardship supports these pillars by reducing harm, lowering costs and finding solutions to complex problems that negatively impact the communities we serve and beyond.

That support was critical in 2025, an especially unstable year for healthcare driven by cost pressures, workforce shortages, rising demand for care and uncertainty tied to federal policy decisions. Despite these challenges, Providence emerged more resilient – continuing to strengthen services and show up for the communities that rely on us. Exemplary achievements for environmental stewardship this past year include **reaching 100 sites operating on renewable electricity**, a **27 percent reduction in carbon emissions across our hospitals** and **spending \$46 million less on the environmental stewardship elements we track**.

By acting now, we deliver healthier outcomes, stronger communities and a more resilient healthcare system for years to come. We look forward with hope, optimism and enthusiasm around this work and the impact it makes.

We are happy to celebrate and share many of our accomplishments and discoveries, and we thank you for reading. Enjoy!



Ali Santore, MPA
Chief External
Affairs Officer



Beth Schenk, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chief Environmental
Stewardship Officer



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

+51 Practice Greenhealth Environmental Excellence Awards

+27% reduction in carbon emissions in 2025 compared to our 2019 baseline

+90% of hospitals deactivated wasteful piped delivery for nitrous oxide

+57 sites completed LED retrofits to reduce emissions and costs



ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH ACTION: DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY, EQUITY AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

While the U.S. healthcare sector improves individual and community health, it generates nearly 9% of the country's carbon emissions in the process. We recognize that climate change disproportionately affects vulnerable populations. **As a large healthcare system, Providence has both the responsibility and the opportunity to lead with excellence.** We act to reduce climate impacts by both minimizing our pollution and addressing associated challenges to health and well-being.

Environmental stewardship is about more than reducing our carbon emissions – it is a commitment to building healthier communities, strengthening resilience and addressing social and environmental determinants of health.

Our environmental stewardship efforts focus on making incremental progress and developing a model for healthcare in five areas:

- **Waste optimization:** Reducing consumption, separating waste properly, expanding recycling and composting and repurposing surplus medical supplies
- **Energy and water efficiency:** Reducing water use in highly drought-prone areas, conserving energy and significantly increasing renewable energy purchases in 2025
- **Agricultural food systems:** Lowering food related carbon emissions with plant-forward menu planning, selecting local and sustainable foods, and implementing efficient practices in food preparation and service
- **Chemical reduction:** Reducing carbon emissions from products and processes, including anesthetic agents, and reducing the use of harsh chemicals to ensure safer environments for patients and caregivers
- **Transportation:** Making efforts to reduce emissions in every facility, whether through fleet electrification, mass transit programs or business travel reductions

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

Progress looks different in every community. What works in one region may not be feasible in another. Our WE ACT Scorecard and WE ACT Profile Score help us track emissions, resource use and cost savings to guide effective, localized action.



To learn more about these tools, see our [2024 Report](#).






2025 HIGHLIGHTS

+ **27%** reduction in Scope 1, 2 & 3 carbon emissions at our hospitals since 2019 - see page 13

+ **\$46 million** in annual savings

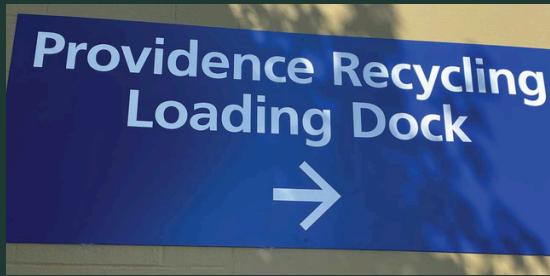
Questions? Connect with our team at environmentalstewardship@providence.org.

WE ACT: GOALS AND PROGRESS (For our 2025 greenhouse gas emissions reductions, see page 13.)

TOPICS	2030 GOALS	2025 PROGRESS	
<p>Waste optimization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste diversion: Divert more than 50% of waste from landfills and hazardous streams Waste emissions: Reduce by 30% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Optimization 27%, up from 23% in 2019 Waste data 95% complete in WE ACT Scorecard Waste streams diverted waste (compost, recycling, universal, donations) established at most hospitals 	
<p>Energy and water efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions from electricity: Reduce by 100% Emissions from natural gas: Reduce by 30% Water use: Reduce by 30% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 100 facilities are powered by 100% renewable electricity; additional sites will transition in next few years via bundled RECs Completed LED retrofits at 57 sites Water conservation initiative completed at 8 Oregon acute sites 	
<p>Agricultural food systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions from food: Reduce by 30% Food waste: Divert at least 50% of food waste away from landfills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 34 Providence and Swedish sites committed to Cool Food Pledge Local and sustainable foods purchased tracked on WE ACT Scorecard 	
<p>Chemical reduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anesthesia emissions: Reduce by 80% Nitrous oxide emissions: Reduce by 90% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volatile anesthetic agents: 75% carbon reduction since 2019 Nitrous oxide: 90% carbon reduction since 2019 Nitrous Oxide piped systems disconnected at 90% of hospitals 	
<p>Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business travel emissions: Reduce by 50% Commuting emissions: Reduce by 30% Fleet vehicle emissions: Reduce by 50% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business travel in hospitals: 70% carbon reduction since 2019 Electric vehicle charging Technical Standard published 	

WE ACT: WASTE OPTIMIZATION

Reducing blue-wrap waste in operating rooms



Inside a modest warehouse in Portland, Ore., Providence Recycling Center is quietly strengthening care for our people, our Oregon communities and our common home.

Each day, clean clinical and operational materials arrive in blue bags from Providence ministries across the state. Once at the center, a dedicated team hand sorts plastics, cardboard, paper and sterile blue wrap, carefully keeping valuable clinical materials out of landfills and in the right waste stream. The work requires focus and care—and it creates meaningful employment for adults with disabilities who are essential to the center’s success. This centralized model helps caregivers recycle with confidence while protecting patient safety and keeping contamination low. Even when markets fluctuate, the center delivers real value by reducing waste risk, lowering costs and supporting carbon-wise care.

IMPACT

+ More than 1.5 million pounds were recycled by Providence Recycling Center in 2025.



Providence Recycling Center supports a twice-yearly polystyrene collection, bringing caregivers, volunteers and the community together at three Oregon sites to keep bulky waste out of landfills. The fall/spring 2025 collection event was coordinated by Providence green teams and resulted in five truckloads being filled with bulky waste. The event is a reflection of our commitment to caring wisely for our resources and our planet in service of Health for a Better World.

WE ACT: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Plant-forward food for better human and planetary health



Providence is advancing climate and health goals through participation in the [Cool Food Pledge](#), a science-based initiative led by the World Resources Institute, supported by Practice Greenhealth and Healthcare Without Harm.

In 2025, 34 Providence hospitals were actively engaged in the pledge, working to reduce the carbon intensity of meals served by shifting toward more plant-forward menus, right-sizing portions of high-emission animal proteins, and minimizing food waste. This work is in alignment with Providence's commitment to reduce carbon emissions while improving nutrition, patient and caregiver experience, and community health outcomes.

PROJECTED IMPACT

+ Plant-based proteins require less water and land to produce, and they have a significantly lower carbon impact.

To read more stories about our ministries' environmental impact, visit our [blog](#).



WE ACT: CHEMICALS

Providence makes environmental data of inhalers more accessible



Brian Chesebro, M.D., Providence's medical director of environmental stewardship, led landmark research published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and developed a clinician-friendly inhaler tool that makes the chemical and emissions impact of inhalers easier to compare. The tool translates complex data on potent greenhouse gases used in metered-dose inhalers into practical information clinicians can consider alongside safety, effectiveness, cost and patient needs.

"This resource helps clinicians see the environmental impact of inhalers in one place," said Beth Schenk, chief environmental stewardship officer at Providence. "By increasing transparency around high-impact chemicals, Providence is demonstrating how health systems can reduce pollution from clinical products while continuing to deliver high-quality, patient-centered care."

IMPACT

+ This clinician-designed tool adds an environmental stewardship lens to inhaler prescribing – supporting safe, effective, patient-centered choices while reducing health care pollution.





BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE

In 2025, Providence took two industry-leading steps to strengthen climate resilience across our acute care facilities— 1) completing Climate Risk Facility Assessments and 2) issuing our first Climate-Related Financial Disclosure— recognizing that extreme weather, power disruptions, wildfires and climate-related health impacts increasingly threaten safe, reliable care.



Climate Resilience Facility Assessment (CRFA)

Providence introduced the CRFA to proactively assess and address climate risks across facilities by:

Standardizing assessment of infrastructure readiness to generate consistent, comparable data

Establishing clear metrics to track risk, progress and improvement over time

Integrating findings into strategy and guiding leadership decisions on investment, policy and operations

2025 CRFA HIGHLIGHTS

Why It Matters

Climate resilience is both a strategic benefit and moral imperative. Hospitals must remain operational during climate emergencies to protect patient health, community well-being and long-term financial stability.

Collaborative Approach

The assessment engaged facilities, emergency management, environmental stewardship and real estate leaders—aligning expertise to prioritize actions and inform future efforts.

Result

The assessment created strong foundation for long-term resilience planning and systemwide climate preparedness.



ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

“We SHARE” encapsulates our approach to environmental leadership through service, health, advocacy, relationships and education. Within Providence, we advocate for climate policies that protect vulnerable communities through government affairs, partnerships and leadership. Building trusted relationships helps us promote health while inspiring others to adopt environmentally responsible practices.

In 2025, the Providence Center for Environmental Stewardship expanded its commitment to sharing knowledge and accelerating environmental stewardship by growing its public library of practical tools and resources for healthcare organizations and community partners.



Expanding Toolkits and Resources

Providence Center for Environmental Stewardship expanded.
The virtual platform shares our initiatives and a resource library.

To support systemwide alignment and empower others to take action, PCES released four new Environmental Stewardship toolkits in 2025 designed to translate strategy into practice:



These toolkits complement existing resources and are publicly available to encourage adoption of environmentally sound practices across healthcare and beyond.

MORE 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

- + 51 Environmental Excellence awards were received from Practice Greenhealth.
- + 5 Providence hospitals were named among the nation’s Top 25 by Practice Greenhealth.
- + 66 Number of publications and speaking engagements by the Environmental Stewardship Leadership team to educate, share best practices and advocate for climate-safe healthcare.



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS*

Providence Hospitals Greenhouse Gas Emissions	2019	2021	2023	2025	2025 Clinical Services*
Category Description	MTCO2e	MTCO2e	MTCO2e	MTCO2e	MTCO2e
On-site combustion - Gas, fuel oil, propane, diesel	176,713	174,835	172,874	169,783	186,371
Fugitive emissions - N2O	13,486	11,248	10,751	2,506	8,446
Fugitive emissions - Refrigerants	473	363	198	6,290	
On-site combustion - PSJH Owned vehicle fleets	2,000	2,000	1,378	1,152	1,152
Subtotal Scope 1	192,672	188,447	185,201	179,731	195,969 **
Electricity - location	227,246	197,884	192,913	189,153	234,119
Electricity - market	223,556	210,782	177,635	105,052	141,069
Steam	8,360	7,747	3,990	6,457	6,457
Scope 2 Location	235,606	205,631	196,903	195,609	240,576 **
Scope 2 Market	231,916	218,529	181,625	111,509	147,525 **
Purchased Goods and Services			556,463	618,794	641,243
Capital Goods			115,291	196,574	217,806
Fuel- and Energy-Related Activities Not Included in Scope 1 or Scope 2	90,105	94,755	87,189	84,032	100,766
Upstream Transportation and Distribution		In Scope 3 Cat 1			
Waste Generated in Operations	22,403	23,021	24,387	23,825	25,391
Business Travel	5,195	1,370	2,037	1,656	11,594
Employee Commuting	101,722	100,147	95,781	103,767	149,139
Upstream Leased Assets		In Scopes 1 & 2			
Downstream Transportation and Distribution		In Scope 3 Cat 1			
Processing of Sold Products		N/A			
Use of Sold Products		N/A			
End-of-Life Treatment of Sold Products		N/A			
Downstream Leased Assets		N/A			
Franchises		N/A			
Investments		Deferred			
Subtotal Scope 3	219,424	219,293	881,147	1,028,648	1,145,939
Anesthesia					
Desflurane	4,595	1,788	1,090	102	102
Isoflurane	326	303	291	244	244
Sevoflurane	1,481	1,450	1,436	1,360	1,488
Subtotal Anesthesia Elements	6,402	3,541	2,817	1,706	1,834
Reductions - Carbon Offsets		(203)	(277)	(262)	(262)

* All hospitals, clinics, MOBs, ASCs and other locations providing clinical services

** Verification pending

About Us

Our Mission

As expressions of God's healing love, witnessed through the ministry of Jesus, we are steadfast in serving all, especially those who are poor and vulnerable.

Our Vision

Health for a Better World

Our Promise

"Know me, care for me, ease my way."

Our Values

COMPASSION

We reach out to those in need and offer comfort as Jesus did. We nurture the spiritual, emotional and physical well-being of one another and those we serve. Through our healing presence, we accompany those who suffer.

DIGNITY

We value, encourage and celebrate the gifts in one another. We respect the inherent dignity and worth of every individual. We recognize each interaction as a sacred encounter.

JUSTICE

We foster a culture that promotes unity and reconciliation. We strive to care wisely for our people, our resources and our earth. We stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable, working to remove the causes of oppression and promoting justice for all.

EXCELLENCE

We set the highest standards for ourselves and our ministries. Through transformation and innovation, we strive to improve the health and quality of life in our communities. We commit to compassionate, safe and reliable practices for the care of all.

INTEGRITY

We hold ourselves accountable to do the right things for the right reasons. We speak the truth with courage and respect. We pursue authenticity with humility and simplicity.




About Us


Providence is a national, not-for-profit Catholic health system comprising a diverse family of organizations driven by a belief that health is a human right.

 **\$2.1 billion**
in community benefit*

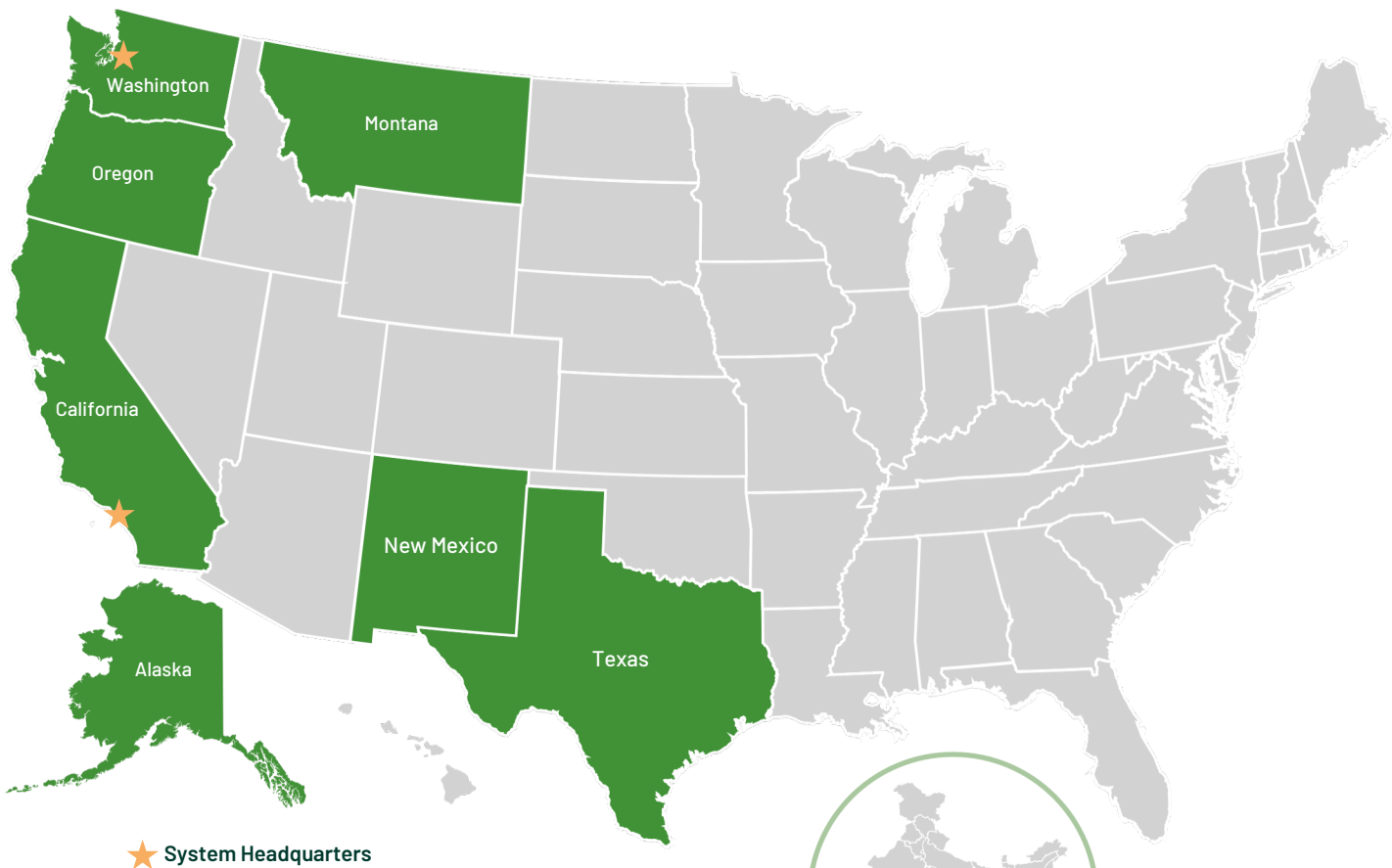
 **120,000**
caregivers

 **19**
supportive housing
facilities

 **51**
hospitals

 **1,000+** physician clinics, senior services,
supportive housing resources and other
health and educational services

***To learn more, please read our**
[2025 Annual Report to Our Communities.](#)



Hyderabad,
India



Thank you for reading!

To learn more, visit the
[Providence Center for](#)
[Environmental Stewardship](#)

