

Welcome to the Minneapolis VHAMC





50 of the greenest hospitals in America



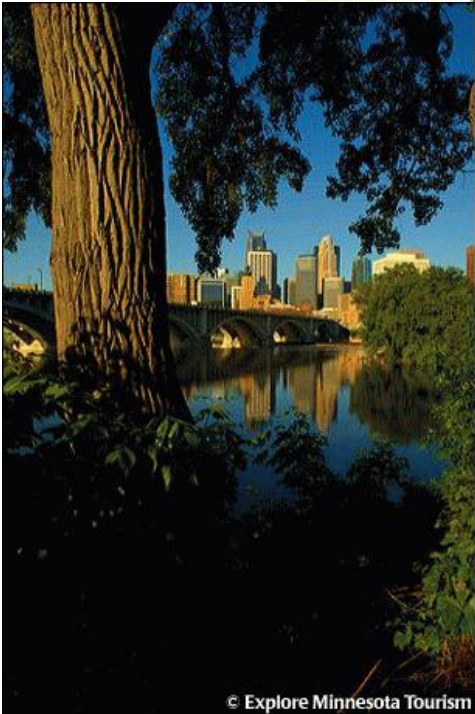
Minneapolis Among Best in VA

For more than 5 years, Minneapolis has been ranked among the top 10% of VA facilities in quality of care. Examples of excellence include:

- Very low mortality rates
- Outpatient performance measures
- Inpatient performance measures
- Mental Health experience of care
- Mental Health continuity of care
 - Best places to work
 - Adjusted length of stay



Minnesota is a very strongly environmentally conscious state



© Explore Minnesota Tourism

Minnesota has some of the strictest state-wide environmental regulation in the Nation. We have county level hazardous waste regulation in our Twin Cities Metropolitan area.

Why is Minnesota special?

It is an ecological crossroads, a land of more than 10,000 lakes, dozens of rivers and thousands of wetlands. Near the center of the North American continent where grasslands and great wetlands meet northern pine forests and southern oak and maple woods.

The source of the Mississippi River.

There is a very strong state-wide ecological consciousness

Highest per capita volunteer rate in nation

Highest per capita charitable donation in nation

Among the best health statistics in the USA

The home of the best VA and private hospitals in the world.

In my humble and slightly biased opinion, that is. - GEJ

(Minneapolis VA Medical Center and Mayo Clinic)

Leadership Talks:

Minneapolis was one of the first facilities to appoint a member of the Executive Suite as Facility Sustainability Officer.



Mr. Kurt Thielen is Sustainability Officer at one of the largest and most complex facilities in the entire VA Health Care System (VAHCS). His imperative is to manage resources to provide the best possible health care for all, while striving to continuously improve the sustainability of his facility and the VAHCS. MVAHCS is one of 165 hospitals in the VA system. We participate in all Agency directives and initiatives, while introducing our individual brand of excellence into health care sustainability.

The MVAHCS goes above and beyond the USEPA federal requirements to develop facility sustainability policies which meet the more stringent environmental requirements of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Hennepin County Environmental Services.

VHA Sustainability Program



- All VA Medical Centers have been working on Sustainability goals and objectives by reducing waste, conserving energy, by purchasing green products and by managing water use.
- All VA facilities are seeking to meet Executive Order 13693: Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade
- We constantly challenge each other to improve asking, “ How does your VAMC meet or exceed the minimum sustainability standards ?



Leadership



EPP



Waste



Energy



Chemicals



Water



Greening the OR



Climate



Food



Green Building

VHA Sustainability Program



- The GEMS program uses multiple methods to measure sustainable activity at VAMCs.
 - **Practice Green Health Waste Tracker**
 - **EPEAT**
 - **Greenhouse Gas Reduction**
- Sustainable activities are monitored by different departments at the VA and VAMC.
- We ask, Do you know what savings you bring to the VA due to your sustainability program?

VHA working with Veterans Canteen Service – The Eco-Safe Digester : A Better Food Waste Disposal Solution



Annual Earth Day Tech-Dump event - personal electronics recycling



Grass roots and Top down initiatives

Grounds crew using less salt for deicing





National 2014 Results



Diverted 390,000 tons of waste from landfills



Saved 80 million gallons of water



Avoided purchasing 15,000 pounds of office paper



Reduced fleet distance traveled by 12.3 million miles



Saved 107 million cubic feet of natural gas



Sent 457 tons of end of life electronics to third party certified recyclers



These Combined Efforts Result in an Estimated Cost Savings of More Than \$24 million to U.S. Taxpayers



United States Environmental Protection Agency



www.epa.gov/smm

www.epa.gov/smm



National Sustainable Materials Management Program
Federal Green Challenge

National Award to

*Minneapolis VA Health Care System
Department of Veterans Affairs*

for

Transportation

Susan Hedman
Region 5 Administrator

August 20, 2015



CHANGING HOW WE THINK ABOUT OUR RESOURCES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW



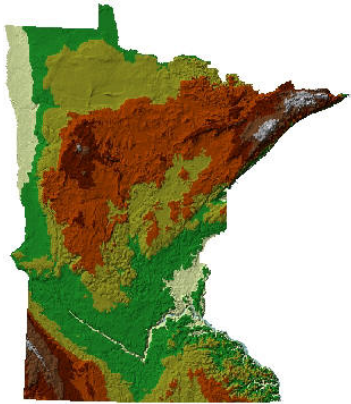


2017
Practice Greenhealth
**ENVIRONMENTAL
EXCELLENCE**
AWARDS

Celebrating Sustainability in Health Care

leanMed
Practice Greenhealth 2017
Edwin
Practice

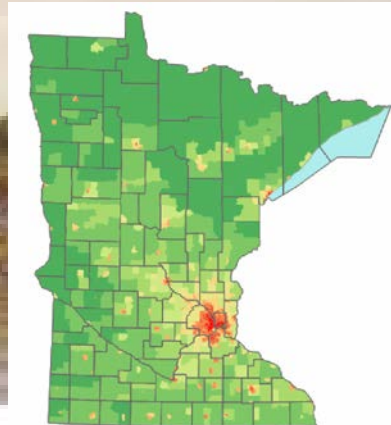
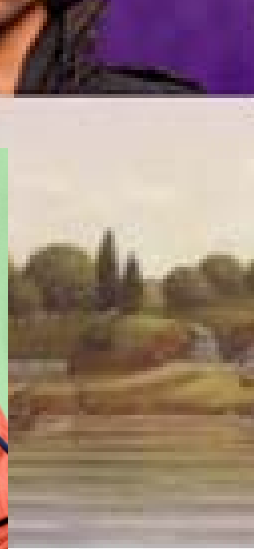
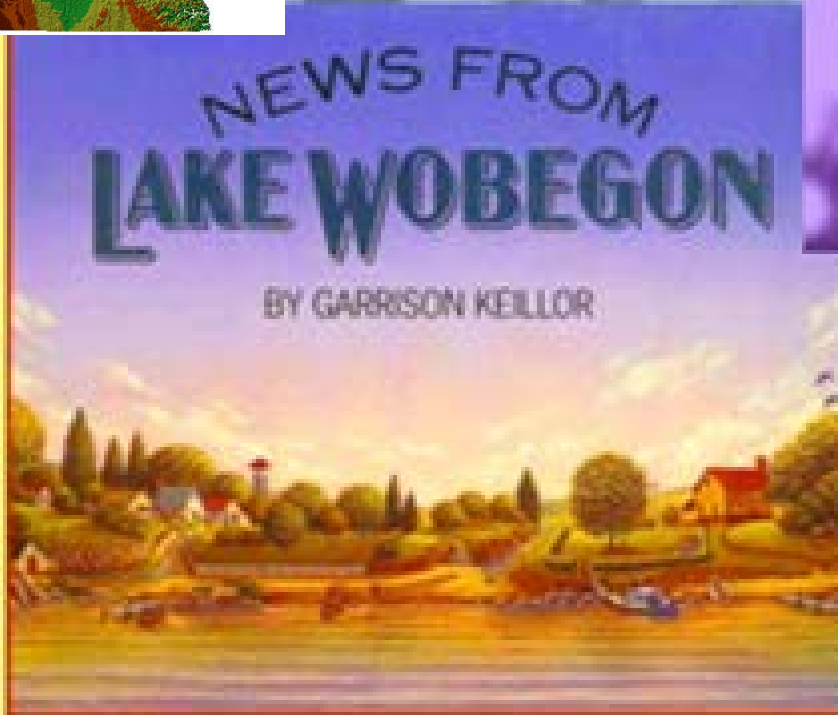
Practice Greenhealth
EDWIN
PRAKASHER



That's the news from
Lake Wobegon, where
all the women are
strong, all the men are
good looking, and all the
children are above
average.



Garrison Keillor
Author



Questions?

A hand holding a green globe of the Earth. The globe is semi-transparent, showing the continents in a darker green. The hand is positioned in the center, with fingers gently cradling the globe. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

- **Why did we participate in the Federal Green Challenge ?**
 - It is the right thing to do
 - It promotes the Triple Bottom Line of Sustainability at our Agencies and facilities
 - It encourages friendly competition and cooperation (coopetition)
 - It results in **AWARDS** and positive recognition for your Agency, your facility and your management
 - It allows you to access the advice and technical assistance of the EPA