

Article Reference:

<http://www.acppubs.com/article/CA6523044.html>

LEED For Health Care Coming

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and the Green Guide for Health Care (GGHC) have agreed to help ensure that the health care industry has the tools and resources to build green hospitals that are healthier for the patients and staff, that use less energy and water, and that reduce impact on the environment.

USGBC President, CEO & Founding Chair Rick Fedrizzi says patients in green hospitals feel a greater sense of well-being, require less medication and stay less time.

The two organizations will work together to develop tools, educational programs and other support for green health care building, including resource materials, education and training events; a prioritized research agenda; and future health-care-related green building tools.

USGBC will administer LEED for Healthcare certification, while GGHC continues to act as an agent of change and tool developer empowering the health industry to take leadership in the world of green building and operation.

EPA 2007 Enforcement Brings Record Reduction In Wisconsin Pollution

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says that enforcements it undertook in Wisconsin during 2007 will reduce pollution by more than 173 million pounds — the largest reduction in the state since EPA began keeping track.

Its actions resulted in regulated entities spending more than \$528 million on pollution controls to correct past violations and help prevent future ones.

In the past fiscal year, the EPA resolved 25 actions against regulated entities in Wisconsin and assessed \$2.8 million in civil penalties for air, water, hazardous waste, community right-to-know, and pesticide violations. As part of the settlements, Wisconsin companies agreed to spend \$138,000 on supplemental projects to benefit the environment.

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