



Ballarat Health Services
Putting your health first



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT

Ballarat Health Services is dedicated to improving the health of our patients and the communities we serve. Protection of the environment is essential to the long term health of our communities.

Ballarat Health Services will:

- Manage its operations in a manner that is protective of the environment and human health.
- Seek new and innovative ways to meet environmental goals through conservation, reduction, reuse and recycling programs and through partnering with others in the community to safeguard the environment.
- Apply these principles to achieve optimal environmental practices consistent with clinical excellence, organisational goals and financial considerations. In an effort to protect the earth's resources, and to minimise environmental damage, Ballarat Health Services will:
- Manage, minimise and eliminate, whenever possible, the use of hazardous materials.
- Conserve scarce resources and improve resource efficiency through innovation and education.
- Protect the environment through a preference for products which contain recycled materials, are recyclable or reusable, and cause the least amount of environmental harm during manufacturing, use and disposal.
- Use pollution prevention initiatives to reduce negative environmental impacts.
- Minimise the generation of waste through source reduction, re-use and recycling programs.
- Conserve energy and improve the energy efficiency of our operations and make every effort to use and promote environmentally safe, cost-effective and sustainable energy sources.
- Ensure the health and safety of our employees by promoting safe work practices, reducing exposure, using safe technologies, and implementing effective emergency preparedness and response programs.
- Provide employees with environmental information through training and education programs in order for them to make work/practice decisions in support of these principles.
- Monitor and evaluate our practices as they relate to these environmental principles.
- Incorporate green principles into design, construction, and operational strategies to minimise the environmental impact throughout the total built environment.

It will be the responsibility of all staff at Ballarat Health Services to promote practices and apply standards that are consistent with this environmental statement.

Endorsed at the Board of Management meeting of Ballarat Health Services on 20th December 2011