



 “Greening” your work life

1. Involve your team in tests of change around recycling or reducing supply waste.
2. Coordinate with other departments, such as EVS, materials management or procurement and supply, on green tests of change—or “embed” a member of one of these departments in your UBT.
3. Work with your facility’s waste-hauling vendors to find out what types of materials and supplies can be recycled, and place recycling bins strategically in cafeterias and near exits.
4. Cut down on costly, wasteful single-use medical devices or supplies as part of performance improvement efforts.
5. EVS teams: Switch to environmentally friendly cleaning products and supplies.
6. Invite your teammates to shop for locally sourced, organic fruits and vegetables at the nearest KP weekly farmer’s market.
7. Host a monthly healthy salad bar, like the UBT at San Diego’s Positive Choice clinic did in its successful effort to improve attendance.
8. Replace thirsty plants for drought-tolerant alternatives, as several teams in Northern and Southern California have done.
9. Go paperless: Don’t print out agendas and documents; send them out via email or show on a projector instead.
10. Recruit a champion in your department to be on the lookout for new opportunities and coach others on greening their workplace.

Kaiser Permanente has set a goal to reduce its overall greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent by 2020, compared to its 2008 levels. By 2015, Kaiser Permanente aims to reuse, recycle or compost at least 40 percent of its waste system-wide, diverting all of this material from landfills.

These tips are gleaned from LMP reporting and from conversations with Green Team leaders at various KP facilities. They are not intended as a definitive list but as a starting point for team discussions. Go to LMPpartnership.org/tentips for stories and tools on how to green your workplace.