



# Intermountain Healthcare is Celebrating Earth Day

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, USA, April 21, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Earth Day is Saturday, April 22, and Intermountain Healthcare believes that "helping people live the healthiest lives possible" also extends to the planet we live on.

In a recent address to the community, Marc Harrison, MD, Intermountain's President and CEO, talked about Intermountain's obligation to the environment including how the organization is working to reduce its impact on the environment.

"At Intermountain, we dream of 'helping people live the healthiest lives possible,'" Dr. Harrison said. "So it naturally follows that we take our responsibility for the environment very seriously. Earth Day is a celebratory reminder of our obligations to the planet — and we'll celebrate the environment all week long at Intermountain. Of course, we'll continue to do our part as an organization to improve the environment for as long as we exist."

Dr. Harrison shared five ways Intermountain is showing respect for our planet, such as designing energy efficient buildings, being conservative with resources, and recycling. One example Harrison gave, "Since launching a single stream recycling program in 2011, Intermountain has gone from a rate of 11 percent of our total waste recycled to 27 percent in 2016. That's 6.9 million pounds of waste removed from our garbage dumps."

Another is the implementation of LEED Certified buildings. Intermountain has 14 facilities that are LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified with eight new facilities being designed to meet LEED certification requirements. LEED certified buildings use less water and electricity and reduce greenhouse emissions. Buildings can receive one of four certification levels: Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. Of the 14, three are certified, eight are silver, and three are gold. Intermountain also has five facilities that are Energy Star Certified — meaning these buildings earned a score of 75 percent or higher on national measures.

Intermountain has also made great strides in community sustainability, reduction in water use, and use of solar power in facilities.

Intermountain Healthcare is a not-for-profit system of 22 hospitals, 180 clinics, a Medical Group with about 1,500 employed physicians and advanced practitioners, a health plans group called SelectHealth, and other medical services. Intermountain is widely recognized as a leader in transforming healthcare through high quality and sustainable costs. For more information about Intermountain, visit [www.intermountainhealthcare.org](http://www.intermountainhealthcare.org).

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