A $50,000 sterile processing system installed last summer at Community Regional Medical Center is saving 1 million gallons of water a year. It’s one of several water-saving measures Community’s hospitals have adopted during California’s historic drought.

The new high-tech sterilizers use less than a gallon of super-heated water to sterilize more surgical instruments than the old processors, which used 178 gallons per load. Community is also conserving by:

- Pressure washing its downtown hospital campus with free recycled water from the city of Fresno, saving 7,000 to 12,000 gallons a month.
- Partnering with the city of Clovis to be the first and largest private landowner to use recycled water for drought resistant landscaping on the 125-acre Clovis Medical Center campus.
- Switching to low-flow toilets and motion sensor faucets in new construction and remodeled areas.

A report on what it takes to make a healthy community

ENVIRONMENT IS A PRIORITY INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL

A Breath of Fresh Air
In one of the dirtiest air basins in the nation with high rates of asthma and lung disease, Community Medical Centers is encouraging employees and doctors to drive zero emissions vehicles. Community installed more than 15 car charging stations for employees and plans for 45 more, plus 71 preferred parking spots for clean air vehicles in a new employee parking garage being built next year at Community Regional Medical Center.

Saving 1 Million+ Gallons of Water
A $50,000 sterile processing system installed last summer at Community Regional Medical Center is saving 1 million gallons of water a year. It’s one of several water-saving measures Community’s hospitals have adopted during California’s historic drought.

Recycling 1.4 Million Lbs. of Waste

A $50,000 sterile processing system installed last summer at Community Regional Medical Center is saving 1 million gallons of water a year. It’s one of several water-saving measures Community’s hospitals have adopted during California’s historic drought.

Disinfecting Without Chemicals
As Community Regional Medical Center’s environmental safety officer, it’s Camille Boone’s job to make the workplace safer for employees and ultimately for patients. And for Boone, safer also means greener. “I’m on a mission to get rid of as many toxic chemicals as possible,” she said. “So I started with one of the worst, Glutaraldehyde, or Cidex-OPA.”

Boone helped guide the switch this month to a new eco-friendly technology called Trophon that’s even more effective in disinfecting ultrasound probes and no longer requires employees to don personal protective equipment, employ air filtration devices during processing and use chemical neutralizers to dispose of the waste left over after sterilizing. Trophon disinfects probes using hydrogen peroxide instead.

1,000 gallons of toxic Glutaraldehyde will be removed by switching completely to clean Trophon disinfecting technology.

“A mission to get rid of as many toxic chemicals as possible.”

Community Regional’s Environmental Safety Officer, Camille Boone, demonstrates how employees must suit up before using toxic Glutaraldehyde, or Cidex-OPA, to disinfect ultrasound probes. She’s working to remove it completely with clean Trophon sterilizing technology.

Community Regional Medical Center

Community is working to raise awareness of the connection between a cleaner, greener environment and better public health.

One Network. One Community.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A HOSPITAL NETWORK AND ITS COMMUNITY ARE CONNECTED? FIND OUT ATcmc.news/august2016

Kevin Barcelos, RN, manager of informatics and education at Fresno Heart & Surgical Hospital, plugs in his electric car at work.