

Healthcare facilities can generate up to 25 pounds of waste per day per patient. Hospital leaders recognize the large amount of waste is a consequence of operating around the clock. Priorities are shifting to achieve a balance of sustainability and compliance that pushes environmental boundaries with commitments to improving air and water quality.

Many regulatory standards for properly managing waste were set in motion beginning in 1976 followed by RCRA, and then the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drug Disposal Act, and the Hospital Medical Infectious Waste Incinerator Rule, to name a few. Yet the average number of regulatory compliance issues (The Joint Commission, OSHA, EPA, and/or Department of Transportation) uncovered during a typical hospital compliance review is 23.

To AHE members at the EXCHANGE 2012 conference, Laurie Leon, director of materials management at Boca Raton

Regional Hospital, highlighted that 90 per-

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