

The Trochu Green Team St. Mary's Health Centre Trochu

The St. Mary's Green Team promote environmental stewardship through their recycling, energy conservation, and many other green initiatives. This team leads in social justice in that it speaks out courageously and consistently with an unwavering voice on behalf of those who have none—the future generations and the environment.

These three ladies single-handedly take out all the shredded paper, cardboard, batteries, old TVs/furniture, outdated computer and hospital equipment and deliver it to the local recycling centre or drive it to Three Hills, Red Deer and sometimes Edmonton to be recycled.

“Everyone at the facility is extremely proud of the extra effort this team takes to be environmentally friendly and demonstrates quality stewardship with our used resources,” said Avril Andrus, Site Leader. “They are excellent role models for the entire staff and we would like to see them recognized for their tireless hours of volunteer work ensuring that stewardship is upheld at St. Mary's Health Centre.”

“What started out as a simple effort 10 years ago with a small box under the counter or collecting a little bag of newspapers, has grown into a variety of recyclable materials collected in a utility room which we take two or three truckloads to the recycling centre a couple of times a week,” said Lynn Williams, one of the team members.

“I love the satisfaction of taking an overstuffed room of recycling and emptying it,” said Lynn's sister, Linda Ogilvie, who also works at St. Mary's. “Today we reuse or recycle so much more than we ever have. We take everything from used hearing aid batteries, printer cartridges, tins and milk jugs, and of course cardboard.”

“My greatest pleasure is seeing someone who never used to recycle or even think of recycling, stop by and drop off the items they have collected from their area,” added Linda.

The Trochu Green Team's commitment has even grown into a humanitarian effort.

“Marilyn is an inspiration. She quietly goes about collecting used items, old clothes, unused and expired medical equipment which has been sent to Burma and other third world nations to help those in need,” said Linda.

They all agree that it just shows what you can do—it's one small thing but it's so worthwhile.