

## **Sustainability Policy**

DeLand Foot and Leg Center, under the direction of Dr. Jenneffer Pulapaka, recognizes that businesses can have a negative impact on the environment. We are committed and enjoy finding ways in which we can reduce the impact of our work both in the office and when work takes us away from the office.

### **It is our policy to:**

1. Support electronic administrative paperwork, including conversion of our screenings and testing paper forms to electronic forms with digital signatures.
2. In an effort to reduce notepads and notepaper, we have ROCKETBOOKs for our staff.
3. 'Upcycled' old shoes. So, don't throw out your shoes. We help gently used shoes find new homes in our community.
4. Pharmaceutical waste disposition through environmentally appropriate pharmaceutical sustainable waste management programs in DeLand, FL.
5. Reduction of plastic bags by using eco-bags when possible for general waste.
6. We support eco-friendly catering for our local events and business luncheons. Focusing on locally grown ingredients, composting food waste, vegetarian, vegan, and avoiding plastic and paper goods as much as possible.
7. Reuse mugs for our office coffee and reusable cups for other beverages, along with plates and silverware for staff.
8. Reduce the quantity and toxicity of healthcare waste by, purchasing and using products and material that do not contaminate our water systems in Florida.
9. Prior authorization forms electronic versions only, no paper.
10. Electronic new patient forms with only a patient signature on the final or updated document.
11. Minimize the use and exposure to hazardous chemicals, including persistent, bio-accumulative, and toxic (PBT) substances.
12. Elimination of mercury in our office.
13. Autoclave instruments that would normally just use chemical sanitization to reduce chemical waste in our Florida waterways.
14. We use well water for our Plant to Plate Patient Garden and our Florida friendly landscape.
15. Practice energy efficiency with NEST in ECO mode and the away modes to reduce electrical consumption.

### **STARTUP PLANS:**

1. Rechargeable battery recycling with two programs that recycle single-use and rechargeable batteries and integrated waste management with a mail-back program.
2. Cardboard recycling! We are starting the conversation with Waste Management to encourage our building and neighboring buildings to recycle cardboard.

  
Jenneffer Pulapaka, DPM  
CEO/Podiatrist