

**Environment of Care Standard 1.20: The organization maintains a safe environment.  
Elements of Performance: Environmental Tours**

**Element of Performance 1:**

**The organization conducts environmental tours to identify environmental deficiencies, hazards and unsafe practices.**

**Element of Performance 4:**

**The hospital conducts environmental tours at least annually in all areas where individuals are not served.**

**Element of Performance 5:**

**The organization conducts environmental tours at least annually in areas where individuals are not served.**

Evidence of Compliance	Evidence of Performance Improvement
<b>Environmental Tours</b>	
<p>Tours include inspection of areas where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> hazardous materials are used and stored</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> hazardous waste are stored including satellite accumulation</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> solid and infectious wastes are managed</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> solid and infectious wastes are managed</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tour covers appropriate topics, carried out in prescribed manner</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Special attention paid to areas where corrective action previously taken</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate persons involved in conducting tour</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tours conducted at least every six months</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate response to deficiencies identified</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Action taken to prevent deficiencies, e.g. problematic chemicals eliminated.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing policy, criteria to reduce waste, conserve energy, eliminate hazardous chemicals</li> </ul>
<b>Written Documentation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tours documented as written audits</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Written audit reports complete, corrections made</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspection reports from all regulatory agencies maintained, corrective actions implemented</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspection reports from insurance agents, other consultants used to identify action items</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Completed environmental audits filed with EPA</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Employee incident reports reviewed, actions are taken to correct, mitigate future problems</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Spill incidences documented, actions taken to reduce future incidences</li> </ul>	

For detailed citations, tools and resources, and links to other documents, visit the Healthcare Environmental Resource Center (HERC) at <http://www.HERCenter.org> and select JCAHO Standards under Regulations and Standards in the top navigation bar.