

# RCM NEWS

## RCM News for December 2013

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

*In this issue:*

Appliances  
Building Retrofits  
Energy Performance  
Lighting  
Pumping  
Water  
Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities  
Resources for You

*While every URL in RCM News is checked for accuracy prior to distribution, URLs may change, and servers may temporarily fail to connect to working URLs.*

### Give Your Building a Holiday, Too

One of the easiest ways to save energy is to turn off equipment when it's not needed. Make sure that your building takes a long weekend by checking to see if your building management system is set for a holiday schedule on **Wednesday, January 1st for New Year's Day**. Most systems let you designate holidays for the entire year, saving staff time and ensuring holiday weekdays are in unoccupied mode. Remember to check your lighting system too, since it may have separate controls.

Find out more about building scheduling at

<http://betterbricks.com/DetailPage.aspx?ID=492#EquipmentScheduling>

Brought to you by BOC® - Building Operator Certification, [www.theBOC.info](http://www.theBOC.info)

### Appliances

"[EC Motors, Explained](#)" was written by George Riker, Market Development Engineer at ebm-papst Inc. EC (Electrically Commutated) motors are compared with the more traditional AC motor. EC motors can be quieter and more efficient. There are other differences in terms of size, voltage dependencies, speed control, protection, output, and more.

### Building Retrofits

"[Prologis Rolls Out Its Warehouse Energy Retrofits](#)" is a three-Web-page, November 2013 fact sheet from the Building Technologies Office (BTO) at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The partnership of Prologis and DOE, with technical assistance from NREL (National Renewable Energy Lab), resulted in the improved lighting performance of an existing warehouse in Mississippi.

[“Bay Ridge Gardens - Mixed Humid Affordable Multifamily Housing Deep Energy Retrofit: Annapolis, Maryland”](#) is a case study from the Building Technologies Office (BTO) at DOE’s Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE) Office; it was published October 2013. The article explains how 43% energy savings were achieved with the application of easy (“non-invasive”) retrofits.

## Energy Performance

[Advanced Energy Retrofit Guide: Practical Ways to Improve Energy Performance: K-12 Schools](#) is a 214-page, December 2013, web-accessible book from DOE’s Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE) Office. According to the book’s introduction, school buildings have an average life span of 42 years and 30% of schools were built before 1960. Schools spend more money on energy bills than on the combined costs of computers and books. As a result, energy efficiency improvements are essential. This book was developed to guide building and resource managers in public, private, and parochial schools to get the most out of the cost-effective energy efficiency improvements that are available to them.

## Lighting

[“Night and Day at the Museum,”](#) by Elizabeth Evitts Dickinson, Davis, was published in the September-October 2013 issue of *Architectural Lighting*. It is a well-illustrated case study of an extensive and multi-faceted lighting retrofit of the Yale University Art Gallery. The retrofit included approaches that included daylight, halogen, and LEDs.

[“An Era of Enlightenment,”](#) by Robert G. Davis, was published in the September-October 2013 issue of *Architectural Lighting*. It reports on the research conducted over the years on “human factors” which include such things as needs that change as people age. Additionally, and especially, it discusses the cognitive maps that people construct to understand new environments.

## Pumping

The following five articles were published in the November 2013 issue of *Pumps & Systems*; **note that all five are two Web-pages in length:**

[“Metering Pump Reduces Chemical Costs While Improving Safety & Efficiency”](#) was authored by Russell Merritt, Watson-Marlow Pumps Group. The metering pump is a technology adopted (early) by Lakehaven Utility District, in Washington State, for its wastewater treatment plant.

## Water

[“Water Conservation from A to Z”](#) was written by Paul Lander, Water Conservation Specialist with the City of Boulder, Colorado. This is a list of publications, organizations, research, events, policy, and other resources directed to the water professional; much of it may be of interest to the Resource Conservation Manager as well.

## Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

### Kick-Starting Your Energy Management Program

This webinar features discussion about overcoming barriers of time, money, and expertise to build a robust energy management program.

- Jan. 7, 2014 live webinar

[Click for information](#)

*U.S.DOE EERE Better Buildings Initiative*

### Energy Efficiency in Correctional Facilities & Opportunities for State Energy Office Engagement

This webinar features an overview of best practices for energy efficiency and energy savings potential in correctional facilities, as well as discussion of how energy offices support this effort.

- Jan. 23, 2014 online webinar

[Click for information](#)

*U.S.DOE Technical Assistance Program (TAP)*

### ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Getting to know the new EnergySTAR Buildings & Plants website – Jan. 15
- Financing Energy Efficient Upgrades with Energy Star – Jan. 16

[Click here for more information](#)

*US EPA*

### Portland General Electric Seminars and Webinars

Portland General Electric offers online webinars and paid courses open to everyone, and seminars and workshops free of charge to its commercial and industrial customers.

- Calculating Energy Costs – Jan. 22, 2014 online webinar

[PGE Energy Education Center webpage](#)

*Portland General Electric, Energy Trust of Oregon, NEEA, BetterBricks*

### Building Operators Certification

The tentative 2014 course schedules have been announced. BOC Level I certification is 74 hours of training and project work in building systems maintenance. Level II certification is 61 hours of training and elective coursework in equipment troubleshooting and maintenance. Classes usually meet one or two full days a month over a period of four to six months.

*All dates below are for the first class.*

- **Washington State**
  - Level I – March 19, 2014 in Tulalip
  - Level I – April 1, 2014 in Seattle
  - Level 1 – Fall 2014 in Longview
  - Level II – Sept. 24, 2014 in Seattle
  - Level II – Sept. 25, 2014 in Olympia
  - Level II – Oct. 1, 2014 in Everett
  - Level II – Fall 2014 in Spokane
- **Oregon**
  - Level II – Feb. 26, 2014 in Portland, OR
  - Level I – March 6, 2014 in the Columbia Gorge area
  - Level I – March 11, 2014 in Salem
  - Level I – April 15, 2014 in Bend

[Click for BOC Washington state information](#)

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### Better Buildings Summit

A national summit to catalyze investment in energy efficiency across the public, private, commercial and other sectors.

- May 7-9, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

[Click for registration information](#)

*U.S.DOE EERE Better Buildings*

### AEE (Association of Energy Engineers) Real-time Online Seminars

Webinars and live interactive courses you can take from your computer. Programs are generally two to three hours long, over a period of days. Topics include energy auditing, lighting controls, HVAC systems and much more. Visit their website for a complete list:

<http://www.aeeprograms.com/realtime/> .

### Resources for You

#### Better Building Workforce Guidelines

The [Better Building Workforce Guidelines](#) is a set of voluntary guidelines to improve the quality and consistency of commercial building workforce training and certification programs. They are conducting a job-task analysis study for five job categories: building energy auditor; building commissioning professional; building operations professional; energy manager, and; energy performance and sustainability in government facilities. Current industry practitioners whose work falls into one or more of the categories are needed to participate in job-task analyses. Deadline to apply is December 4, 2013. The US Dept. of Energy is supporting the National Institute of Building Sciences Commercial Workforce Credentialing Council in this effort.

#### ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager updates

[Enhancements](#) are planned for the recently upgraded Portfolio Manager. To help prepare for the changes, you may try them out on the beta test side starting December 10. To receive regular updates and other information concerning Portfolio Manager, subscribe to their mailing list.

#### Advanced Energy Retrofit Guide (AERG) for Healthcare Facilities

Part of a series of retrofit guides commissioned by U.S. DOE, this document published in September 2013 is a [How-to Guide](#) for energy and facility managers, owners, and utility and program administrators of healthcare facilities. It is a practical roadmap for effectively planning and implementing performance improvements in existing buildings.

#### Do you have newsletters, websites and links to share? Do you have RCM questions?

RCM News is always looking for interesting information, tips and resources to share with other resource conservation managers. Our goal is to increase your success by sharing what you and your colleagues are doing – with energy efficiency measures, problem-solving, communication, data tracking, presentations, and more. In addition, WSU Energy Program can help find solutions to your RCM program's technical and programmatic questions. [Email Karen J](#) to share and ask!

#### Energy Events Calendar

<http://www.energyexperts.org/TrainingEducationandEmployment/EventsCalendar.aspx>

### Washington RCM Support

The Washington State University Energy Program provides RCM support. Check out the “RCMx” website: <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/ResourceConservation/RCMx.aspx>. We appreciate any feedback on this site and would also appreciate items to add to our resources, such as tools, examples of policies and job descriptions.

### RCM News is prepared by the Washington State University Energy Program

This activity is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program. Funds provided through the Washington Department of Commerce Energy Division.

Previous issues of RCM News may be viewed at <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicationsandTools.aspx> (click on Resource Conservation in the right hand column).

We welcome comments or ideas for articles. Please send to Karen Janowitz - [janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu](mailto:janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu)

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
 EXTENSION ENERGY PROGRAM

[www.energy.wsu.edu](http://www.energy.wsu.edu)