

RCM NEWS

RCM News for December 2017

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

In this issue:

Job Opportunity
Washington State Green Ribbon Awards
Green Schools
HVAC
Smart Buildings
Workplace Comfort
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.

Remember to prepare for winter holidays when your buildings are unoccupied. BetterBricks, by NEEA, has a [tip sheet](#) to prepare for the season, save energy, and avoid complaints.

→ Upcoming RCM Webinar on January 18 – see events below.

Job Opportunity

The City of Tacoma is recruiting for the position of Resource Conservation Manager. This position is responsible for implementing and monitoring effective conservation strategies, and assisting in development of municipal environmental policies and programs. Some of the duties include tracking and monitoring city resource use, educating staff on resource conservation strategies, and working with utilities.

[Click here for job listing.](#)

Closing date is January 15, 2018 at 5:00 PM.

Washington State Green Ribbon Awards

If your PreK-12 Washington state school reduces environmental impacts and costs, improves the health and wellness of students and staff, and provides effective environmental and sustainability education, a Green Ribbon Award may be in your future. [Applications are due by February 15, 2018](#) to the

Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Those selected as finalists (notification on March 31, 2018) are submitted to the U.S. Department of Education as a national award applicant.

Green Schools

A three-part article on Green Educational Facilities, written by Prem Sundharam in the December 2017 issue of Building Operating Management, looks at the importance of design teams consisting of staff, students, management, and consultants, in selecting the best cost-effective energy-efficient solutions for a new building or the renovation of an older building. Daylighting, increased insulation, and right-sizing HVAC are a few of the top measures used in K-12 school projects. A large classroom whose configuration can be changed with the use of mobile partitions is best equipped with sensor technology that can sense the change in occupant patterns.

Part 1 – [For K-12 Schools, Sustainability Is About Cost Savings, Efficiency](#)

Part 2 – [Rightsizing HVAC, Commissioning: Key to K-12 Efficiency](#)

Part 3 – [Understanding the Next Stages of Sustainability in K-12 Schools](#)

HVAC

A series of three articles on HVAC in the December 2017 issue of Building Operating Management, written by Roy Collver, focuses on the increased options of boiler configurations due to the advancement of boiler technology over the past couple of decades. These options include decentralizing boiler systems, low-pressure boilers, natural gas condensing boilers used in small spaces, and tankless water heaters. Where having hot water is a priority, however, preference must be given to durability and redundancy.

Part 1 – [Technology Gains Boost Boiler Energy Efficiency](#)

Part 2 – [New Thinking In Boiler Design Leads to Better, More Efficient Systems](#)

Part 3 – [Domestic Hot Water: Higher Efficiency Systems Available](#)

Smart Buildings

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) just released “[Smart Buildings: a Deeper Dive into Market Segments](#)”, published December 2017 and written by Christopher Perry, Senior Analyst for their Buildings Program. Focusing on four subsectors of commercial buildings, including offices, the report discusses the benefits of interconnected technologies, from the simplest to the more complicated. A handy table lists the relative costs and savings of different technologies, such as learning thermostats and advanced rooftop controllers. Cost estimates for installing occupancy-based wireless thermostats, for example, show a high savings level at medium cost. Although the report is 82 pages, the section on offices is only 13 pages long.

Workplace Comfort

“[Control Over Lighting and Temperature Boosts Productivity](#)”, published November 13, 2017 in Buildings Magazine, discusses findings from a study that links a worker’s ability to adjust their own workspace lighting and temperature with productivity. Data from this study may be used to create smart building technology solutions.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jan 4, 2018
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jan 11, 2018
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jan 18, 2018
- Using the EPA ENERGY STAR Target Finder & Portfolio Manager Tools for Commercial New Construction Projects – Jan 24, 2018
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM Pacific time

[Click here for more webinars and information](#)

US EPA

Integrated Design: Tools and Methods

This course is intended for those who understand high performance building concepts. The course provides technical training to bring quantitative analysis into design practice, using design tools such as EQuest, Revit, and custom Excel spreadsheets.

- January 11, 2018 in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Building Center, University of Washington Integrated Design Lab

Lights! Retrofits! RCM Action! A WSU RCM Webinar

LED lighting retrofits can be energy-saving cost-effective measures, and yet they're not always easy or deliver the desired results. Resource Conservation Managers from Seattle Schools and the Issaquah School District offer advice, tips, and lessons learned as they discuss their lighting retrofit case studies. Learn about their projects from beginning to end, including how to specify products and working with utilities.

- January 18, 2018 online webinar

[Click here to register](#)

WSU Energy Program

Building Operators Certification

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 classes
 - March 28, 2018 in Seattle
 - Sept 25, 2018 in Renton

[Click for BOC Washington State information](#)

- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - Fall 2018 in Portland area

- Level II classes
 - Summer 2018 in Portland area

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Resources

Provider Lists and Utility Incentives

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC) offers [lists of service providers](#) for Seattle's Building Tune-Up requirement, as well as providers for benchmarking services for Portland's and Seattle's benchmarking requirements. Utilities with energy efficiency incentive programs can also be found at the NEEC website.

Two-year College Degree

Lane Community College (LCC) Energy Management Technician Program, which is the national model for energy efficiency education, is now offering an online degree. The two-year degree program includes online courses in addition to providing hands-on skills with "real world" field projects and cultivating employment opportunities with regional employers. Applications for the expanded online Energy Management Technician Program are currently being accepted for Fall 2018 enrollment at <https://www.lanecc.edu/sustainability/nweei>. For more information, contact Roger Ebbage, Coordinator, Energy and Water Education Programs, Lane Community College, 541-463-6160, ebbager@lanecc.edu.

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](#) to share and ask!

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

