RCM News for July 2019

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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Intern Opportunity

Northwest Natural, a natural gas utility based in Portland OR, is seeking an Energy Efficiency Intern to provide strategic energy management program support and low-income weatherization program support. Application deadline is August 4, 2019. Click here for more information.

Announcements

Link to RCM Webinar
Did you miss the last RCM Webinar or want to see it again? A PDF of the presentation and video-recording of “The Building Walk Down: Uncovering Hidden Opportunities for Savings”, presented by the Smart Buildings Center in partnership with WSU Energy Program on July 24, 2019, can be found in the right column of the RCM webpage.
ARTICLES

Building Automation
Building automation is the topic of a three-part article written by John Rimer for the July 2019 issue of *Building Operating Management*. One of the many reasons to use building automation systems (BAS) is for preventive maintenance which optimizes efficiency and occupant comfort. In addition to BAS, a computerized maintenance system is also recommended. To use these systems, facility personnel are more effective and efficient when equipped with handheld devices for their daily routine.
Part 1 – Understand the BAS’s Role in Facilities Management
Part 2 – Maintenance Management Systems: Managing the Business of Facilities
Part 3 – Mobile Technology Offers Efficiency for FMs

Infrared Imaging
Infrared imaging is the topic of a three-part article in the June 2019 issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions*, written by James Piper. Technological improvements in infrared imaging entail better resolution, detection of smaller amounts of temperature differences, use of standard image formats, and even have a built in visible-light camera for simultaneous capture. The uses of thermal imagery are many, and include identifying overloaded electrical panels, blocked HVAC coils, and water damage in roofs.
Part 1 – Infrared Imaging Comes of Age
Part 2 – Using Infrared Imaging to Detect Electrical Issues
Part 3 – Detecting Water in Roofs with Infrared Imaging

Urban Heat Islands
“Six Causes of Urban Heat Islands and Four Ways to Offset Them”, an article written by Janelle Penny, published 7/10/2019 by *Buildings Magazine*, starts off with a description of the urban heat island phenomenon, which exists where densely placed buildings and paved surfaces absorb the sun’s heat. Reflective roofing is one method to counteract this occurrence, as well as decreasing paving, planting vegetation, and more.

Utility Incentive Programs
Many utility incentive programs are shifting away from rebates for energy efficient equipment and toward incentives per energy unit saved, as discussed in a three-part article in the July 2019 issue of *Building Operating Management*, written by Karen Kroll. Pay for performance programs, strategic energy management, and innovative programs such as one that offers resources and incentives during the building design stage, are becoming more available.
Part 1 – Understanding New Utility Incentive Programs for Energy Efficiency
Part 2 – The New Age of Utility Energy Efficiency Incentive Programs
Part 3 – Testing and ISO Standards Play Role in Utility Incentive Programs

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings
All are online webinars.
  • Portfolio Manager 101 – Aug 6
  • Make a Splash with Quick Water Wins – Aug 7
  • Portfolio Manager 201 – Aug 13
  • Benchmarking Water & Wastewater Treatment Plants in PM – Aug 15
  • Portfolio Manager 301 – Aug 20
  • Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

Click here for more webinars and information

US EPA

Building Operations Certification (BOC) Informational Webcast
  • Aug 21 online

Click here for more information

BOC

2019 Oregon APEM Summer Networking Social
  • August 22 in Portland

Click here for more information

Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers

2019 Fall Lighting Design Lab Classes
  • Networked Lighting Controls, 1-day workshop – Sept 13 in Tacoma
  • Light Sources and Luminaires – Sept 19 in Seattle
  • Networked Lighting Controls in Schools – Nov 5 in Seattle
  • Networked Lighting Controls, 2-day workshop – Nov 7 & 8 in Seattle
  • Light, Human Perception, and Health – Nov 14 in Seattle

Click here for more information

Lighting Design Lab

Why Smart Buildings?
Panel of local experts discuss individual perspectives and experiences with smart buildings.
  • Sept 17 in Seattle

Click here for more information

Smart Buildings Center

Safety Practices in Building Operations
  • Sept 18 online

Click here for more information

BOC

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
    - Sept 25, 2019 through March 2020 in Seattle
    - Oct 7, 2019 through April 2020 in Tacoma
    - Spring 2020 in Spokane
  
  Click here for BOC Washington State information

- **Oregon**
  - Level I classes
    - Sept 2019 in Portland area
  
  Click here for BOC Oregon information

Building Operators Certification

Getting to Zero National Forum

- Oct 9-11 in Oakland, CA

Click here for more information

New Buildings Institute, Rocky Mountain Institute

**Education Resources**

Energy Management and Water Conservation Technician Degrees – Lane Community College

Enroll for the Fall Term 2019 in either the Energy Management Degree or Water Conservation Technician Degree at the Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute at Lane Community College. Both award a two-year associate of applied science degree. Scholarships are available.

Sustainable Building Science Technology Bachelor’s Degree – South Seattle College

Enrollment is open for the Fall 2019 innovative two-year degree program at South Seattle College. Classes and field work prepare you for the field of highly technical sustainable building operations and facility management. Classes are mostly online and geared toward the working adult.

**Resources**

Presentations from the 2019 Better Buildings Summit, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Better Buildings, is now available for viewing and downloading. Sessions include Measurement & Verification, understanding the financial impacts of high-performing buildings, and water data.
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.

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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