RCM News for March 2010

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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Energy and Facilities Connections Conference
May 12-14, 2010 in Leavenworth, WA
SPECIAL – RCM NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS may register for this conference at the Consortium member fee, a savings of $110. Register now and don’t forget to book your room to get the conference rate. Call the Enzian Inn (509) 548-9319 and use group code 8318. Then, register for the conference and prepare for a training and networking opportunity – Innovative Approaches for the New Decade.
Topics include energy efficient operations with a shrinking budget, resource accounting (with results from the RCM News survey), green cleaning, Energy Star successes and demonstrations of diagnostic tools.

Boilers
"Boiler Controls: Low-Cost/No-Cost Energy Conservation" by Gary Burger, HVACR Heritage Centre Canada, clearly explains where settings ought to be and why. This article was published in Maintenance Technology, January 2010, at http://www.mt-online.com/component/content/article/264-january2010/1438-boiler-controls-low-costno-cost-energy-conservation.html?directory=90.

"Cost-Effective Boiler Systems Retrofits" was jointly written by Mary Sue Lobenstein and Martha J. Hewett, M.S., both of the Center for Energy and Environment; and John T. Katrakis, PE, LEED AP, J.T. Katrakis & Assocs. Inc. The article describes and pictures the areas to examine for the retrofit and shows, in tables, the more cost-effective approaches to take. The sidebar, "Rebates and Incentives," and a bibliography are included. See this article in Consulting-Specifying Engineer, February 2010, at http://www.csemag.com/article/449379-Cost_effective_boiler_system_retrofits.php.

Facilities Management
"Preventing Problems with Building Controls," by Amanda B. Piell, Assistant Editor, Buildings, makes the case for appropriate staff training, system detection and reporting of problems, and visuals that make the status of controlled systems clear to maintenance staff. See this article at http://www.buildings.com/Magazine/ArticleDetails/tabid/3413/ArticleID/9358/Default.aspx.

Water
"Blue Roofs: Nature’s Hydrology ‘Back to the Future’," by Dave Scott, Stormwater Product Specialist, Hydro International, describes the "blue roof." This is an interesting option for handling stormwater when a roof cannot be made green. A properly designed blue roof may earn one to four points toward LEED certification for a new building or a retrofit of an existing one. The author includes a case study of a blue roof for an unidentified shopping mall in the U.K. See this article in ED+C (Environmental Design + Construction), February 2010, at http://www.edcmag.com/Articles/Web_Exclusive/BNP_GUID_9-5-2006_A_10000000000000744178.

"Sink or Swim," by Sara Stroud, Bay Area Correspondent, Sustainable Industries, gives a good review of the state of water shortages, the reasons why interest in water conservation technologies has lagged, and what signs of interest have begun to appear. For the resources manager, the descriptions of the latest approaches in water conservation should be interesting reading. See this article in Sustainable Industries, February 2010, at http://www.sustainableindustries.com/energy/83258662.html?viewAll=y.

"Virtually All Facilities Managers Are Concerned about Water Conservation," by staff, shows the results of a survey of building managers and building professionals about a number of issues concerning water. See this article in Building Design & Construction, December 2009, at http://www.bdcnetwork.com/article/440545-Virtually_all_facilities_managers_are_concerned_about_water_conservation-full.php.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

Building Operator Certification (BOC) – Level I and Level II Certification course schedule
Ideal for operations and maintenance staff working in public and private commercial buildings. Classes are held once a month.
Level I courses
Renton – April 22, 2010 – October 7, 2010
Tacoma – September 14, 2010 – March 1, 2011
Seattle – October 19, 2010 – April 12, 2011
Level II courses
Portland – April 29, 2010 to September 2010 http://www.nweei.org/boc.html
Description of courses - http://www.theboc.info/training.html
http://www.theboc.info/wa/schedule_wa.html

Energy Benchmarking using Energy Star’s Portfolio Manager
April 1, 2010 in Kirkland, WA
Sponsored by BetterBricks and Building Owners and Managers Assn. of Seattle & King County.
http://esbenchmarking.eventbrite.com/

Lighting Design Lab Spring 2010 Lighting Class Series
   April 7 in Portland, OR
   April 14 in Tacoma, WA
   April 21 in Everett, WA
   April 28 in Bozeman, MT
   May 5 in Seattle, WA
Morning class – The Impact of New Legislation on Lighting
Afternoon class – Effective Use of the Newest Lighting Controls
http://www.lightingdesignlab.com/classform.php

Future Energy Conference
April 21-22, 2010 at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR
http://www.futureenergyconference.com/

BPI Building Analyst Certification
April 26-30, 2010 at Everett Community College, WA

Energy and Facilities Connections Conference
May 12-14, 2010 in Leavenworth, WA
See first item at top of newsletter or go to http://www.energy.wsu.edu/apps/PlantOperations/EnergyFacilitiesConnectionsConference.aspx.

Energy Efficiency First: A Map to Reducing Costs and Carbon Footprint
May 14, 2010 in Portland, OR
A University of Oregon continuing education workshop on how to integrate energy into management systems, conduct energy assessments, collect data to inform project planning, and execute and document energy projects.
http://sustain.uoregon.edu/workshops/course_desc.php?CourseKey=579284

West Coast Energy Management Congress
June 15 - 16, 2010 in Seattle, WA
The largest energy conference and technology expo held on the U.S. West Coast specifically for business, industrial and institutional energy users. www.energyevent.com.

Energy Management Certification from Northwest Energy Education Institute
July 12-23, 2010 is the classroom portion in Eugene, OR.
This advanced certification program consists of a classroom portion, a workplace project to implement an energy-saving project, and presentation of results. Intended for engineers, technicians, architects, and facility, maintenance and energy managers.
Building Operator Certification (BOC) – Live Technical Webinars
July 21, 2010 – Energy Tune Up – Optimizing Outside-Air Usage & Equipment Scheduling
http://www.theboc.info/webinars/index.html

On-Line AEE Self Study Professional Training Courses
Course titles such as “Basics of Energy Management”, “Fundamentals of HVAC Systems” and “Finance & Accounting for Engineers & Technicians” (new) are available in a home-study format.
http://www.aeecenter.org/training/

Energy Events Calendar
http://www.energyexperts.org/TrainingEducationandEmployment/EventsCalendar.aspx

College-level Education Opportunities

Resource Conservation Management Degree Option, Northwest Energy Education Institute at Lane Community College, Eugene, OR
Lane Community College now has a two-year Resource Conservation Management option as part of their Energy Management Technician Associate of Applied Science degree. There is a waiting list for the Fall 2010 program that is still accepting applicants.
For more information go to http://www.nweei.org/em.html or http://lanecc.edu/science/energyMgmt/index.html, call 541-463-3977 or 1-800-769-9687 or email info@nweei.org.

Everett Community College
New programs include a four-course Sustainable Business Operations Management Certification (for students with some previous business experience) and a five-day Residential Energy Auditor Certification.
http://www.everettcc.edu/green/index.cfm?id=10836 or call 425-388-9243.

Edmonds Community College, Edmonds, WA – Energy Efficiency Training
A two-year Associate of Technical Arts degree in Energy Management is suited for people currently working in the industry, seeking entry-level work in the field, or taking on new responsibilities in energy efficiency at their workplace. Most classes are offered evenings and online. Certificates are also available that can be completed in six months.
For more information go to www.edcc.edu/energy or call 425-640-1640.

Cascadia Community College, Bothell, WA – Energy Management Specialist Certificate
The Energy Management Specialist Certificate prepares a person for employment in careers such as energy auditor, energy analyst, building technician, resource conservation manager, and system technician.
South Seattle Community College, Georgetown Campus – Green & Sustainable Training Programs
Existing Energy Audit Courses and Certification prepares students for national certification programs such as the Building Performance Institute and Energy Star. Other programs include Conservation and Weatherization, Building Sustainability Managers intended for current building managers, and a Pre-Apprenticeship Program to prepare students for energy utility, green building, and electrical green jobs fields.

For more information, contact Joe Hauth at jhauth@sccd.ctc.edu

Resources for You

Olympia School District website
The Olympia School District has posted their Resource Conservation newsletter called Green Wire.
http://osd.wednet.edu/media/pagefiles/1071.greenwirefeb2010.pdf

Washington Green Schools
K-12 voluntary certification program to reduce a school’s resource consumption.
www.wagreenschools.org

Washington RCM Support
Washington State University Energy Program RCM Support
Check out the “RCMx” where we have moved the RCM Guidebook into web format. 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.
http://www.energy.wsu.edu/projects/rem/rcm.cfm

Oregon RCM Support
Oregon Department of Energy RCM Support

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