

ShopTalk

Plant Operations Support Consortium

Volume 18, Number 1

Fall 2013

Portland Public Schools Achieve Sustainability Success

By Phil Partington, Consortium staff

Portland Public Schools (PPS) has had a busy couple of years, from winning awards for tree preservation, health and safety, custodial training and green cleaning to hiring goats to clear invasive plants growing behind the district's headquarters.

Mark Franklin, Landscape Foreman, was honored in April 2013 with the Bill Naito Community Trees Award at the City of Portland's Arbor Day festival.

This is the first time since the award's inception that an individual from a school district has won. The City of Portland's Urban Forestry Commission created this annual award in honor of Bill Naito, the builder and community leader who did so much to beautify Portland with trees. This award is presented to individuals, organizations or projects that have continued Bill's work and reflect his dedication.

Patrick Wolfe, Senior Manager, Environmental Health & Safety, was presented with the Safety and Health Professional Award at the 2013 Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety and Health Conference for outstanding service and innovation. Some of the issues Wolfe has managed in the more than 13 years he has been at PPS include providing education to promote safe work practices, reduce asbestos in buildings and monitor indoor air quality. Patrick is the first individual from a school district to win this award.

Tom Pagh, Facilities Operations Manager, received the first-ever 2013 Special Achievement Award for training excellence from Process Cleaning for Healthy Schools (PC4HS). In late 2012, PPS launched a pilot program featuring the PC4HS cleaning system. Pagh was selected to train

See **Portland** on page 7



Above: Tom Pagh,
Facilities Operations Manager;
Below: Mark Franklin,
Landscape Foreman



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Plant Operations Support Consortium

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In This Issue

Portland Public Schools Achieve Sustainability Success	1
Shop Notes.....	2
Tell Us About Your Innovations ..	3
Globally Harmonized System and Why It Matters	4
Three Grant Opportunities for State of Washington Public Entities.....	6
Emerging Energy Efficiency Technologies Webinars.....	7
Consortium Members.....	8
EFC Conference Information	8

Shop Talk is a quarterly electronic newsletter of the Plant Operations Support Consortium, providing information focused on facility operations. We welcome feedback from readers. To provide feedback or to subscribe to the Consortium electronic Listserv, email us at PlantOps@energy.wsu.edu.

Archived issues of *Shop Talk* are available at:

www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/PlantOperations/ShopTalk.aspx

Consortium contacts:

Edwin Valbert 360-956-2055
valberte@energy.wsu.edu

Phil Partington 360-956-2057
phil@energy.wsu.edu

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Shop Notes

By Edwin Valbert,
Consortium Manager

So often when we travel out of our offices and meet with members, two things happen:

- The member will say, "I should have called the Consortium! I just had to deal with _____ (fill in the blank)."
- We leave with several tasks the member has asked us to help with.

Both of these illustrate the importance of staying in touch with members and reminding folks of the value of their membership.

Members sometimes say, "I didn't want to call and get billed" or "I wasn't sure if that was part of my membership." Rest assured that calling your Consortium is always free. More than that, we always try to provide assistance under the terms of your membership as the first and primary option.

If the requested work exceeds what we can do under the basic membership agreement, it is important to know that no fee-for-service work is ever conducted by us without a signed agreement in place that outlines the scope of work and associated costs. We are here to alleviate your stress, not bring worry to the table, so never hesitate to call or email us out of fear of being billed. Membership, after all, has its privileges.

Below is a quick rundown of recent tasks your Consortium has assisted members with. This list



Edwin Valbert

shows the variety of ways we can be relevant to you and, I hope, serves as a reminder to call us. Be on the lookout for more updates like this, as I intend to make this a regular feature of Consortium Notes.

Recent Membership Support

- Provided support for a member who was using ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager
- Researched zoning and property setback questions
- Reviewed bid results and offered feedback about why the bid prices were so different
- Investigated odor issues on the second floor of an occupied building
- Completed a facility needs assessment of a member's building
- Assisted with Megamations data input

Let us help – add us to your speed dial and let your staff know about this resource. We are ready and eager to support your operations. ✖

Edwin

Tell Us About Your Innovations

By Phil Partington, Consortium Staff Member

Over the past sixteen years, Consortium staff have learned a thing or two about our members:

- Facility managers don't have a lot of time to waste during the day.
- There are typically limited budget dollars for training.
- It is hard to find ways to share with the world their staff's innovation in doing more with less.

With these points in mind, here is a quick and easy way to broadcast your successes with training and innovation.

Introducing the EFC Innovations Award

The Consortium wants to hear about your innovations in facilities. These do not have to be big dollar savers; we welcome your descriptions of simple and practical practices that save time, effort, or resources, or that make operations run smoother.

Why apply for this award?

- Winners receive free registration for one to the 10th Annual Energy/Facilities Connections Conference (a \$295 or \$495 value, depending on whether you are a Consortium member), as well as the opportunity to have your innovation highlighted in a ten-minute presentation at the event and also in this newsletter.

- Filling out the submission form is fast and easy. Unlike typical award submissions that require a multi-paged report laden with data and details, the EFC Innovations Award application requires only the names and roles of those involved, contact information, and answers to three general questions regarding the innovation.

works for a public or nonprofit organization is eligible for this award.

More information is available at <http://www.energy.wsu.edu/PublicFacilitiesSupport/PlantOperations/EFCInnovationsAward.aspx>, by calling 360-956-2057 or emailing phil@energy.wsu.edu. ✕

Who's eligible?

Any member of the Plant Operations Support Consortium and/or anyone who has attended a past Energy/Facilities Connections Conference and



Actual award being designed.

Globally Harmonized System and Why It Matters

By Sue Brown, Consortium staff

Thousands of products and materials found in today's workplaces contain hazardous chemicals that can cause health problems, from minor skin irritations to serious injuries or diseases like cancer. In 1983, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) created the Hazard Communication Standard, or HAZCOM. HAZCOM was developed to ensure that employers and employees are provided with information about inherently hazardous chemicals in the workplace.

HAZCOM rules apply to workplaces that:

- Have employees who may be exposed to hazardous chemicals at work
- Distribute hazardous chemicals to employers
- Produce or import hazardous chemicals

The five main elements of a HAZCOM program include:

1. A written hazard communication plan
2. A chemical inventory
3. Labels and warnings
4. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs)
5. Employee training

OSHA made changes to HAZCOM in May 2012 with the adoption of a Globally Harmonized System (GHS). GHS essentially creates an international set of criteria for classifying chemicals and enhances the HAZCOM standard (it does not replace it). GHS standardizes wording, pictures and labels of chemicals so employers and employees have the same understanding no matter where in the world the chemical is being manufactured or used.

Two primary changes are being introduced in the GHS system:

1. A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) is replacing the MSDS as the primary source for detailed hazard information about chemical products. While MSDSs were permitted to take on a variety of formats, SDSs will follow a standardized format.
2. The information on labels is becoming more standardized to increase employee comprehension of the potential hazards and precautions. New labels will feature:
 - Hazard pictograms (framed by a red border)
 - A signal word, such as DANGER



- Hazard and precautionary statements
- Product and supplier identifiers

Every state in the U.S. must adopt these changes. However, Washington is one of a handful of states that has extended the deadline to comply with GHS. Provided below is a summary of Washington's deadlines issued by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. Until the dates listed in this table, all parties must comply with:

- New requirements in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-901-140
- Current hazard communication rules (see table on next page)

Training employees about the hazards of the chemicals they work with and around helps them understand why safe work procedures are vital in preventing injury and illness.

Employers have a variety of resources to tap into when training workers on the new GHS, including their internal safety departments, the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, the International Sanitary Supply Association

See **System** on page 5

System

Continued from page 4

Hazard Communication Rules for Employers

Task	Deadline
Train employees on the SDS format and new label elements	June 1, 2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update labels on workplace containers and train employees on newly identified hazards. Update the Hazard Communication Program, as needed. 	June 1, 2016

(ISSA), the United Nations Publications office, and other online resources. Many school districts can receive the GHS training through their Educational Service Districts. Additionally, be on the lookout for a free webinar on the subject hosted by the Plant Operations Support Consortium. For more information, contact Sue Brown, 360-956-2058, or email her at browns@energy.wsu.edu.










The Hazard Communication Standard Program's Pictograms and Hazards will have new art. This "Quick Card" has the pictograms that go into effect in 2015. Additional information can be found at OSHA's website: https://www.osha.gov/Publications/HazComm_QuickCard_Pictogram.html. ❌



Hazard Communication Standard Pictogram

As of June 1, 2015, the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) will require pictograms on labels to alert users of the chemical hazards to which they may be exposed. Each pictogram consists of a symbol on a white background framed within a red border and represents a distinct hazard(s). The pictogram on the label is determined by the chemical hazard classification.

HCS Pictograms and Hazards

Health Hazard  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive Toxicity • Respiratory Sensitizer • Target Organ Toxicity • Aspiration Toxicity 	Flame  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-Heating • Emits Flammable Gas • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides 	Exclamation Mark  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritant (skin and eye) • Skin Sensitizer • Acute Toxicity (harmful) • Narcotic Effects • Respiratory Tract Irritant • Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)
Gas Cylinder  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases Under Pressure 	Corrosion  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin Corrosion/ Burns • Eye Damage • Corrosive to Metals 	Exploding Bomb  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides
Flame Over Circle  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	Environment (Non-Mandatory)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Toxicity 	Skull and Crossbones  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)

For more information:

OSHA® Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 U.S. Department of Labor
www.osha.gov (800) 321-OSHA (6742)

Three Grant Opportunities for State of Washington Public Entities

"I need more money" – the timeless mantra of the facilities manager. But finding money can be an expensive, time-consuming project in itself. Fortunately, three new grant opportunities for Washington public entities are on the horizon.

Department of Commerce

2013-2015 Energy Efficiency and Solar Grant Program

- \$25 million is available for higher education, local governments, and state agencies.
- Applicants may apply for:
 - An energy efficiency grant,
 - A solar grant, or
 - A combination of energy efficiency and solar grants.
- First round of applications are due **January 30, 2014**, at 5 p.m.
- For additional information, see: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Programs/services/CapitalFacilities/Pages/EnergyEfficiencyGrants.aspx>.

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

2013-2015 Energy Efficiency Grants

- \$9 million in grants available for K-12 school facilities, up to \$500,000 per district. Each district may submit one application and may receive one grant award.
- Background:
 - The 2013 Legislature appropriated \$7 million dollars in the 2013-15 capital budget for a new round of energy efficiency grants for K-12 school facilities.
 - An additional \$2 million from previous appropriations will also be awarded.

- Applications are due **February 18, 2014**, at 5 p.m.
 - Submit applications on **iGrants**, including all supporting documents.
- For additional information, including details about work that needs to be accomplished prior to application (such as Investment Grade Audit), see: <http://www.k12.wa.us/SchFacilities/Programs/EnergyImprovement/EnergyEfficiencyGrants2013-15.aspx>.

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Emergency Response Grant (upcoming)

- \$10 million in grants available to K-12 school facilities to help school districts implement emergency systems.
- Background:
 - The 2013 Legislature appropriated \$10 million for a competitive grant program that will support the use of new technologies to expedite the law enforcement response to school emergencies.
- For additional information, see <http://www.k12.wa.us/SchFacilities/default.aspx> and click **What's New** on the right side of the page. A website for this grant is in development but is not yet online. ✖

Portland

Continued from page 1

with Rex Morrison, founder and president of PC4HS, and to implement training in the pilot project and in other schools in the district. Tom worked with Kalli Butt, the Custodial Quality Assurance Coordinator, to develop a custodial training video that introduces PC4HS to PPS custodians and schools.

The **PPS custodial team** won the 2012 Silver Green Cleaning Award from American School & University magazine. This award recognizes education institutions that have exemplary green-cleaning programs. PPS provides annual three-day custodial training with classes taught by leading green cleaning product and equipment manufacturers. This complete hands-on training is offered throughout the year to all new hires.

PPS has received much attention for hiring "Goat Power," a team of 39 goats led by the llama Monty to eat away nearly half an acre of invasive plants behind the district's headquarters. Using goats to clear weeds is not a new idea, but it is still uncommon despite its notable benefits: goats eliminate the need for herbicides and can reach areas a lawnmower cannot, and PPS officials say this method was only half the cost of hiring a landscaper to do the job. Congratulations to **Mark Franklin**, Landscape Foreman, who suggested the goat solution to PPS, as well as Tom Adams and the PPS Facilities Operation crew.

The Consortium applauds PPS' ongoing focus on



PPS has received much attention for hiring "Goat Power," a team of 39 goats led by the llama Monty to eat away nearly half an acre of invasive plants behind the district's headquarters.

sustainability and doing more with less. Their efforts should encourage the rest of us to push boundaries with innovative thinking.

For more information on any of these successes, contact Tom Adams, 503-916-3197 or email tadams@pps.k12.or.us. ✖

Consortium Members Welcome: Emerging Energy Efficiency Technologies Webinars

Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Energy Efficiency Emerging Technology (E3T) Program presents monthly webinars to showcase new and emerging technologies that show promise in saving energy.

The E3T Showcase series is presented by the Washington State University Energy Program, and is sponsored by BPA with support from Western Area Power Administration.

View the current and previous webinars on the E3TNW website, <http://e3tnw.org/Webinars.aspx>.

Consortium Members

K-12 Schools

Bridgeport
Camas
Centralia
Delta, BC
Enumclaw
ESD 101
ESD 114
ESD 121
Federal Way
Forest Ridge School of
the Sacred Heart
Hoquiam
Inchelium
North Thurston
Odessa
Olympia
Orcas Island
Orondo
Orting

Pateros
Portland Public
Schools, OR
Reardan-Edwall
Renton
San Juan Island
Selkirk
Snohomish
Wenatchee
Wishkah Valley

Universities/Colleges

Bates Technical College
Bellevue College
Clark College
Columbia Basin College
Community Colleges of
Spokane
Edmonds Community
College

Everett Community
College
Highline Community
College
Lake Washington
Institute of Technology
Olympic College
Pierce College
Seattle Central
Community College
South Puget Sound
Community College
The Evergreen State
College
Washington
State University
Energy Program
Wenatchee Valley
College

Municipalities

City of Edmonds
City of Hoquiam
City of Tumwater
Clark County
Jefferson County
Lakehaven Utility
District
Lewis County
Pierce County Library
System
Skamania County
Snohomish County
Thurston County
Whatcom County

Miscellaneous

Hopelink
Multicare System
Sound Transit
Squaxin Island Tribe

Washington State Agencies

Corrections
Ecology
Health
Licensing
Natural Resources
Parks & Recreation
School for the Blind
Social & Health Services
State Patrol
Transportation
Veteran's Affairs

We always welcome new members to our state-wide consortium. We look forward to serving your facility and operations needs. ✖

2014 Energy/Facilities Connections Conference Bricks and Mortar in a Wireless World May 6-8, 2014

Located at the beautiful
Enzian Inn
Leavenworth, Washington

Mark Your Calendars!

Check out the EFC 2014 page at
www.energy.wsu.edu/efc,
or call Consortium staff at (360) 956-2057 or
e-mail plantops@energy.wsu.edu for
additional information.

ENERGY/FACILITIES CONNECTIONS

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION ENERGY PROGRAM

