

RCM News for August 2022

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Building Electrification Grants

The Washington State Department of Commerce is preparing to make \$9.7 million of total funding available under the Clean Energy Fund Building Electrification grant program. The program will award funding to eligible projects that advance all-electric buildings by deploying smart technologies to demonstrate grid-interactive buildings, or installing high-efficiency electric equipment to reduce the use of fossil equipment. Please visit the [Clean Energy Fund Building Electrification website](#) for more information and to sign up to receive email updates about the program.

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC) and the Smart Buildings Center (SBC) are offering a Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk. The utility* sponsored service is providing technical assistance and coaching during office hours via phone, zoom/teams, and email. In addition, a resource webpage including training videos, FAQs, and other resources regarding the Standard is available. The webpage and the helpdesk information can be found at

<https://www.smartbuildingscenter.org/resources/clean-buildings-performance-standard/>.

*Sponsoring utilities are Clark Public Utilities, Puget Sound Energy, Seattle City Light, Snohomish County PUD and Tacoma Power.

ARTICLES

Adsorption Cooling

The need for energy efficient cooling that uses environmentally conscious refrigerants led Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) scientists to research adsorption cooling. Although still in research stage, the article [Greener Air-Conditioning for a Warmer World](#), featured online in *PNNL News* July 27, 2022 and written by Alexandra Freibott, describes how this cooling method significantly reduces energy use compared to conventional cooling systems.

Energy Modeling

Although energy modeling may never exactly replicate reality, it can be a very useful tool, but not under all circumstances. A technical feature in the May 2016 *ASHRAE Journal*, [Modeled Performance Isn't Actual Performance](#), written by James V. Dirkes II and Brad Weaver, poses questions and scenarios to understand modeling and get the best results. Examples include pre-occupancy energy modeling, often used to compare design criteria, and modeling in existing buildings to verify a measure's performance.

Renovations for Decarbonization

[Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Targeted Renovations](#), published in the August 2022 issue of *Building Operating Management* and written by Rebecca Berry, looks at the approaches that two colleges in Massachusetts are taking toward decarbonization. Buildings at both schools, Wellesley College and Amherst College, are undergoing many envelope renovations. They are changing their heating to low-temperature water systems to get off of fossil fuel reliance.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Energy Benchmarking at Waste Water Treatment Plants – Sep 1
- Financing Energy Efficiency in Buildings: What to Know Before you Sign – Sep 1
- Portfolio Manager 101 – Sep 6
- Find Rebates of Commercial Building Equipment – Sep 8
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Sep 13
- Portfolio Manager 301 - Sep 20
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Energy Efficiency Pilot Program for Older Commercial Buildings

Host sites are needed to support field validation of building automations solutions for energy efficiency. Learn more at this webinar.

- Sep 8

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

U.S. DOE Better Buildings, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Better Building Webinars

- Strategies for Achieving Zero Energy in Multifamily Buildings – Sep 13
- Healthier, Safer, More Efficient Buildings with Germicidal UV Systems – Sep 15
- Show Me the Money: Financing Decarbonization Projects – Sep 27

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

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Light Sources and Luminaires – Sep 15
- Lighting Audits & Retrofits – Sep 22
- Electrification of the Built Environment, Day 1 – Sep 27
- Electrification of the Built Environment, Day 2 – Sep 29

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

Lighting Design Lab

Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. Six half-day classes.

- Sep 20 through Oct 20, 2022 via Zoom

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Smart Building Center Technical Webinars

- What's Next for Building Controls? The Evolution of IP Technology – Sep 21
- Occupancy & Ventilation: Finding the Balance Between Safety & Efficiency – Oct 19

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Building Operators Certification for Multifamily

BOC Level I Multifamily training helps staff advance skills and career in energy efficient operations of multifamily facilities

- Classes run from Sep 21, 2022 through Mar 9, 2023

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

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
 - Level II classes
 - Oct 26, 2022 to Mar 30, 2023 for Washington residents via Zoom
- Oregon
 - Level I class
 - Oct 6, 2022 to Apr 13, 2023 virtual
 - Level II will be available in 2023

[Click here for BOC Washington State information](#)

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- May 10-12, 2023 in Minneapolis + virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

RESOURCES

Summer/Fall 2022 BOC Bulletin

The latest issue of the [BOC Bulletin](#) features an article on smart buildings, which use occupancy-tracking to reduce energy usage and waste, and can increase employee well-being. Among other articles, read about various energy savings projects implemented by three BOC graduates, and the successful Strategic Energy Management program at Tacoma Power.

Smart Buildings Exchange Session Recordings

If you missed all or part of [Smart Buildings Exchange 2022](#), you can now view session recordings. The conference featured three days of sessions on topics such as the future of energy services, building performance reporting, and building system interoperability. Visit the [conference YouTube page](#) for access to all the sessions.

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

