

**RCM News staff wish you a safe, warm, and energy efficient New Year!**

## RCM News for December 2021

### A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

*In this issue:*

Announcements

Articles

Energy Modeling Tools

Office Temperatures

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

Resources

*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 Energy & Controls Apprenticeship Program

Lane Community College's Energy Management-Building Controls degree program now offers an apprenticeship opportunity providing 2000 hours of paid on-the-job training. The [Building Energy & Controls Apprenticeship Program](#), a partnership of Lane Community College and the University of Oregon Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory, will provide program enrollees the opportunity to get on-the-ground experience with building controls at high-performance buildings, in preparation for future employment.

##### Seattle City Light Survey

If you own or manage a building 50,000 square feet or larger in the Seattle City Light region, take a [quick anonymous survey](#) to help Seattle City Light develop programs or resources for compliance with the Washington Clean Buildings Performance Standard.

##### State Project Improvement Grants

Applications for [State Project Improvement](#) funding from the Washington State Department of Commerce are being accepted on a continual basis until all funds have been awarded. These grants cover the additional costs to increase the efficiency of projects at existing state-owned buildings.

## ARTICLES

### Energy Modeling Tools

[“New Tools Help Simplify the Energy Modeling Process”](#) in the December 2021 issue of *Building Operating Management*, written by Karen Butler, Saranya Gunasingh, and Dave Vigliotta explores two tools for setting design energy targets and evaluating energy strategies for new commercial buildings. The ENERGY STAR Target Finder and Portfolio Manager tools can be used to compare strategies and determine a building design’s ENERGY STAR score for the whole building. Sketchbox, a new tool developed by Slipstream, is a simplified intuitive design tool that can compare a proposed building’s energy metrics from modeling different energy conservation measures.

### Office Temperatures

Using two large datasets from US buildings, researchers found that office temperatures are less comfortable for women mostly because of excessive cooling, and that uncomfortable office temperatures are more likely to be cool all year long. In [“Overcooling of offices reveals gender inequity in thermal comfort”](#), published December 8 2021 by *Springer Nature*, Thomas Parkinson et al. discuss overcooling, which wastes energy, and occurs from thermostats set lower than necessary, and from misconfigurations in HVAC systems.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jan 5
- Updated 1-100 ENERGY STAR Score for Medical Office Buildings – Jan 6
- Buildings Performance Standards and Ways to Meet Them – Jan 10
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jan 11
- Streamline Portfolio Manager Data Entry with Web Services – Jan 18
- Energy Benchmarking as a Service – Jan 18
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jan 19
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR*

### Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Commercial HPWH: Engineering Deep Dive Part 1 – Jan 11
- Commercial HPWH: Engineering Deep Dive Part 2 – Jan 18
- Tools for Modeling the 2018 SEC and WSEC – Jan 20
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 1 – Jan 25
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 2 – Feb 1
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 3 – Feb 8
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 4 – Feb 15

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

*Lighting Design Lab*

### Better Buildings Webinars

- Glass Half-full: Saving Money by Saving Water – Jan 11
- Classroom to Career: Advancement in Energy Efficiency Jobs – Jan 18
- PV Valuation: How Solar PV Adds Value to Your Assets – Feb 1

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. DOE Better Buildings*

### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools: Cleaner and Greener

- Jan 12

[Click here for more information](#)

*New Buildings Institute*

### ASHRAE 2022 Winter Conference and AHR Expo

Attend virtually or in-person (in Las Vegas), the winter conference offers many sessions such as occupant behavior and occupancy schedules, and control systems for net-zero energy buildings, as well as intermediate and advanced sessions.

- Jan 20 – Feb 2

[Click here for more information](#)

*ASHRAE*

### King County C-PACER

Attend this workshop to learn about and provide input for the development of King County's Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy & Resiliency Program, which is an innovative financing mechanism for buildings.

- Jan 27

[Click here for more information](#)

*King County*

### 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
    - Spring 2022 for Washington residents – online
    - Fall 2022 for Washington residents – location/delivery TBD
  - Level II classes
    - Fall 2022 for Washington residents – location/delivery TBD

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

- Oregon
  - Level I classes

- March 3, 2022 through Sept 1, 2022 online
- Level II classes
  - Jan 13, 2022 through Jun 9, 2022 online – **REGISTER NOW!**

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

**Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations**

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. The 18 hour course, divided into 6 half-day virtual classes, is designed for existing staff wanting a solid foundational understanding of energy efficiency or for those looking for a new career.

- Spring 2022 via zoom for Washington residents

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

**RESOURCES**

**Energy Modeling Tool Webinars**

Free on-demand webinars from EPA ENERGY STAR provide information and details on using two tools to set energy targets, model energy use, and evaluate various energy measure scenarios during the design stage of new commercial buildings. The free on-demand webinars both examine ENERGY STAR’s Target Finder and Slipstream’s Sketchbox, with [one webinar](#) focusing on the building owner’s perspective, and the [other webinar](#) exploring the design team’s use of the tools.

**Energy Efficient and Carbon Neutral Buildings**

New Buildings Institute (NBI), in collaboration with professional trade groups and other nonprofits, has developed [An Insider’s Guide to Talking about Carbon Neutral Buildings](#), which aims to promote a common framework with which to talk about carbon neutral (focus on carbon emissions) in relation to energy efficiency (focus on kWh) in the built environment. Carbon neutral buildings have additional components such as minimizing or eliminating on-site fossil fuel combustion, optimizing on-site storage, specifying low GWP refrigerants, and selecting low embodied carbon materials. Graphics of these concepts provide greater understanding.

**Energy Data Management Guide**

Created for public-sector organizations, the [Energy Data Management Guide](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy is a seven-step approach for “establishing a robust and sustainable energy management program” by generating buy-in, building a solid foundation for energy data management, and hardwiring energy management. RCMs, energy and sustainability managers, public-sector officials, and others may find the information familiar, yet the website goes into detail and is bound to prove useful with its large collection of strategies, data management tools and resources, templates and worksheets, and relevant examples. A [3-part webinar series](#) examines each step and is available for viewing.

\*\*\*\*\*

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](mailto:janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu)

