

## RCM News for June 2021

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

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Washington State Clean Buildings Initiative

A few key elements of the Washington State Clean Buildings Standard occur on or around July 1, 2021. On this date, the Washington Department of Commerce is scheduled to post compliance requirements and a list of possible covered commercial buildings on the [Clean Buildings webpage](#). Note that building owners will have access to the Clean Buildings Portal only after they receive their notification letter with portal code. July 1 also marks the launch of the Early Adopter Incentive Program. A form will be available on the [Early Adopter Incentive Program webpage](#) for building owners to communicate their intent to apply. And finally, at or around July 1, an integrated version of ASHRAE Standard 100 with WA Amendments (WAC 194-50) will be available, at no charge.

### Washington State Solar Grants Program

The Washington State Department of Commerce is now accepting applications for solar grants, through their [Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings – Solar Grants Program](#). Eligible projects are new solar photovoltaic systems net metered with existing publicly-owned buildings or facilities in Washington. Questions about the program are accepted until August 6, applications are due by August 19, and awards are announced in November 2021. Virtual pre-application meetings are held July 1 and July 14.

## ARTICLES

### Dedicated Outside Air System

Very High Efficiency Dedicated Outside Air Systems (DOAS) are an improvement over conventional DOAS by fully decoupling heating and cooling from ventilation, and pairing with other very high efficiency equipment. "[Four Reasons to Upgrade Your HVAC Using a Very High Efficiency DOAS Approach](#)", published on the BetterBricks website October 13, 2020, explains why separating ventilation from heating and cooling, and right-sizing HVAC systems increases not only the efficiency of a system, but also decreases cost and improves indoor air quality.

### Occupant Health and Energy Efficiency

Integrating occupant health considerations with energy efficiency is the motivation behind the development of H-BEST, the Healthy Buildings and Energy Support Tool, developed by U.S. Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), and the U.S. General Services Administration. "[Bringing Out the H-BEST in Buildings](#)", a June 11, 2021 Web Feature by Tim Ledbetter on the PNNL website, describes the excel-based tool that generates an automated indoor environmental quality analysis, given building and occupant data. The tool went online in April 2021 with the [Healthy Buildings Toolkit](#), targeted to building managers, operators, and energy and sustainability managers with the intention to provide lower-cost and less burdensome decision-making tools.

### Seattle Building Emissions

Energy use among existing benchmarked Seattle buildings over 20,000 square feet decreased over eight percent from 2014 to 2019, yet greenhouse gas emissions from those buildings increased 0.4 percent. A May 12, 2021 Greenspace Blog, "[Seattle's Building Emissions are Rising – Here's What the Data Tells Us](#)", from the City of Seattle's Office of Sustainability & the Environment, written by Terry Sullivan, provides analysis from Seattle's Energy Benchmarking Program for 3,500 of the city's largest buildings. Part of the increase in emissions is because emissions from fossil fuel are about 12 times greater than that from Seattle's electricity generation, which has almost no associated greenhouse gas emissions. This is among the data that can be used by the city to find ways to achieve the goals of their Climate Action Plan.

### Transportation Electrification

More and more agencies and organizations are beginning to consider, and planning for, electrification of their vehicle fleets. "[Get Started on Transportation Electrification](#)" is a new publication by Washington State University Energy Program which provides information on how to begin planning for such a change. Information includes comparing costs and emissions between electric vehicles and gas-fueled vehicles, and steps to electrification, such as considerations for purchasing vehicles and charging stations, estimating the new electrical load, and site planning for charging stations.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Integrating Indoor Air Quality and Energy Efficiency in K-12 Schools – July 1

- Portfolio Manager 101 – July 6
- Portfolio Manager 201 – July 20
- Portfolio Manager 301 – July 27
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR*

### Better Buildings Summer Webinar Series

- How to Identify CHP Projects that Fit Your Goals – July 1
- ESPC in the eXpress Lane: New Project Tracking Tools – July 13
- Workplace Evolution: Supporting Occupant Health While Achieving Energy Efficiency – July 20
- Energy-Saving Envelope Success Stories – July 27
- Waste Reduction: Lessons Learned and What Comes Next – Aug 3

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. Dept of Energy Better Buildings*

### Oregon APEM Summer Series 2021

- July 8, speakers TBD
- August 12, speakers TBD

[Click here for more information](#)

*Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers*

### 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 29, 2021 through Apr 7, 2022 Zoom course for Western WA residents
    - Oct 20, 2021 through Apr 14, 2022 Zoom course for Eastern WA and Idaho residents
  - Level II classes
    - Oct 13, 2021 through Mar 31, 2022 – via Zoom

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

- Oregon
  - Level I classes
    - Aug 5, 2021 through March 3, 2022 via Zoom
  - Level II classes
    - Aug 3, 2021 through Jan 4, 2022 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual summit: “Reflecting & Refocusing on a Resilient Future”.

- Aug 16-18, 2021 – Tacoma, WA

[Click here for more information](#)

*Green Transportation*

### Smart Buildings Exchange Conference

Two-day conference and trade show with the latest information and technologies in the smart buildings industry, showcasing smart city and building projects and initiatives in the Pacific Northwest.

- Aug 24-25, 2021 – Virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center, NEEC*

### Northwest Facilities Expo

A broad based facilities event with an emphasis on green buildings that features the latest products and services in the industry.

- September 1-2, 2021 – Portland, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

*NW Facilities Expo*

### Smart Building Center Technical Webinar Series

- Plug Load Efficiency for Commercial Buildings – Sept 29, 2021

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center*

### 2021 Getting to Zero Forum 2021

Event offering discussion and education on zero energy and zero carbon buildings.

- Oct 27-29, 2021 – New York City

[Click here for more information](#)

*New Buildings Institute*

## RESOURCES

### RCM Clean Buildings Webinars

The series of four webinar on the Washington State Clean Building Performance Standard, focusing on the Operations & Maintenance Program and Energy Management Plan, held March through June 2021 are available for viewing at Washington State University Energy Program’s [Resource Conservation Management webpage](#).

## Monitoring Healthy Buildings

In case you missed it, you can still view the recording of [Monitoring Healthy Buildings: Using EMIS to Identify Issues with Ventilation, Air Quality, and Thermal Health](#) offered by U.S. Department of Energy Better Buildings on June 21, 2021. In this webinar, a speaker from Lawrence Berkeley National Lab demonstrates data and metrics used to monitor and analyze various parameters such as air change rates and airborne contaminants.

## Building Performance Tools

Find the best tools and methods to optimize building performance at the [Driving Building Energy Performance with Data](#) website, developed by the U.S. Department of Energy. Tools and methods for data collection & reporting, management & compliance, analysis & evaluation, and determining goals & outcomes include Building Energy Asset Score, Building Energy Audit Template, and ComStock. These have been developed by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory with support from the U.S. Department of Energy's Building Technologies Office.

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

