

## RCM News for March 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

##### Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings

A new round of [grant funding](#) will be available at the end of March 2022 for energy efficiency improvements and solar photovoltaic systems up to 100 kW from the WA State Department of Commerce. This funding is for publicly-owned facilities and buildings in Washington State. Due to feedback from potential grantees at three listening sessions, Commerce is making several changes and improvements to the Request for Applications and future solicitations.

#### ARTICLES

##### Air Conditioner Emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions from the energy used to power air conditioners comes not only from cooling the air, but about equally as much from humidity control, due to vapor compression technology. The growing impact from these emissions, as discussed in [News Release: Scientists Show Large Impact of Controlling Humidity on Greenhouse Gas Emissions](#), published March 14, 2022 by the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), points to the need for fundamental changes in humidity control technology.

## HVAC System Operation Sequences

Using standardized and optimized control sequences for HVAC systems has the potential to save up to 60 percent in energy savings. [ASHRAE Guideline 36: High-Performance Sequences of Operation for HVAC Systems \(G36\)](#) is a library of standardized sequence logic for the control of HVAC systems and equipment, and applies to both new construction and retrofits. “[A New Resource to Understanding Advanced Building Controls](#)”, written by Rupam Singla and Gwelen Paliaga for the March 2022 issue of *Building Operating Management*, explores how buildings with existing modern control systems and those with older DDC systems can be retrofitted, and includes energy-savings features of G36.

## Living Building Challenge

A renovation of the 22,000 square foot dormitory at the Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center in Minnesota led to full Living Building Challenge (LBC) certification from the International Living Future Institute. In a two-part article in the March 2022 issue of *Building Operating Management*, the author Ronnie Wendt discusses aspects of the successful renovation, and how it was made to be Net Positive, which is different than Net Zero.

Part 1 – [Net Positive Energy: One Facility's Success Story](#)

Part 2 – [How to Create a Successful Living Building Challenge Project](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Energy Benchmarking as a Service – April 4
- How to Avoid Common Mistakes When Benchmarking Offices – April 5
- How to Avoid Common Mistakes When Benchmarking Multifamily Housing – April 12
- Portfolio Manager 101 – April 13
- How to Avoid Common Mistakes When Benchmarking K-12 Schools – April 19
- Portfolio Manager 201 – April 21
- How to Avoid Common Mistakes When Benchmarking Hospitals – April 26
- Portfolio Manager 301 – April 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 Webinars

- Low Carbon Technologies: Strategies for Different Building Types – April 5
- How Historic Buildings Can Benefit from DOE Technology Campaigns – April 6

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

## Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Lighting Audit & Retrofit Techniques – April 7
- The Networked Lighting Controls Value Proposition – April 14
- Networked Lighting Controls Fundamentals, Day 1 – April 21
- Networked Lighting Controls Fundamentals, Day 2 – April 28
- Energy & Alterations: Meeting the Alterations Requirements of the Energy Code – May 5

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

*Lighting Design Lab*

## EV Champion Training Series

Four-part training series providing skills and knowledge on electric vehicle implementation.

- Electric Vehicle Technology and Financial Considerations – April 12
- EVSE Power and Utility Considerations – May 10
- EV Site Assessment – June 14
- Advanced Fleet Electrification – July 12

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

*U.S. DOE Federal Energy Management Program*

## Efficiency Exchange 2022 Conference

Topics include dual-fuel efficiency, updates on federal energy policy, addressing equity in residential programs, and findings from the 2021 Power Plan.

- April 14-15

[Click here for more information](#)

*Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, Bonneville Power Administration, Northwest Power and Conservation Council*

## WSSHE Spring Symposium

Washington State Society for Healthcare Engineering symposium for health care facility management/line staff, architects, engineers, and contractors

- April 21-22 in Chelan

[Click here for more information](#)

*Washington State Society for Healthcare Engineering*

## 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
    - April 19 to Sept 14, 2022 for Washington residents – **STILL TIME TO REGISTER!**
    - 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
  - Check back for additional classes  
[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### BOC Technical Webinars

- It's Electric: The Impact of Electrification on Building Operations – April 20
- Heat Pumps: Are They the Right Fit for Your Buildings? – May 18

[Click here for more 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 course is designed for existing Washington State staff wanting a solid foundational understanding of energy efficiency or for those looking for a new career.

- 6 half-day classes from May 17 through June 23

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

- May 17-19 in Arlington, VA

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. DOE Better Buildings*

### Smart Buildings Exchange

A free hybrid conference providing the latest information from the smart buildings industry.

- Aug 22-24 virtual and in-person

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center*

## RESOURCES

### Integrated Controls Guide and Videos

The [Integrated Controls Implementation Guide](#), published in February 2021 by Slipstream, provides information on integrating networked lighting controls with other building control systems such as HVAC and plug load controls. The 39-page guide includes planning and design; and construction, configuration, and commissioning. In addition to the guide, [Slipstream](#) provides a webinar, savings estimator, and links to case studies on the topic.

## C-PACER Financing

Since Washington State passed legislation in 2020 allowing [Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy + Resiliency \(C-PACER\)](#) programs, Clark, King, Thurston, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties have either established programs or are in the process of developing them. C-PACER is an innovative financing mechanism for energy and water efficiency projects, renewables, energy storage, and more.

## Clean Buildings

If your building is required to comply with the Washington State Clean Buildings Standard, visit the [Customer Support and Resources](#) webpage on the WA State Department of Commerce Clean Buildings website. Near the bottom of the page are links to training videos and much more.

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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)

