

# RCM NEWS

**The folks at RCM News wish you a warm and energy-efficient holiday.**

## RCM News for November 2014

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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### Buildings

“Net-Zero Buildings” is a four-part article written by Greg Zimmerman, and appearing in the November 2014 issues of *Buildings Magazine*. Buildings designed to use net-zero energy or be ultra-energy efficient must have operation and maintenance strategies capable of attaining the designed energy use goal. Talking with building users when planning the building’s programming and right-sizing equipment are important in the planning stages. Fine-tuning and continually monitoring energy use is important during operation.

Part 1: [Especially In Net-Zero Energy Buildings, A Careful Eye On Operations Pays Off](#)

Part 2: [Facility Managers’ Grasp Of Big-Picture Issues Is Crucial To Net-Zero Performance](#)

Part 3: [Flexible Design, Careful Energy Monitoring Are Vital](#)

Part 4: [Despite Buildings’ Success, Facility Managers Aim For More Performance](#)

### Data Centers

“[Reprogram How You Work with IT](#)”, in the November 2014 issue of *Buildings Magazine*, focuses on the importance of good communication and collaboration between facilities and IT departments in order to manage IT energy costs. Monitoring and benchmarking can help identify needs, and instill more trust. For example, monitoring after implementing upgrades can assure IT that proper temperature levels are maintained.

“[Top 12 Ways to Decrease the Energy Consumption of Your Data Center](#)”, appearing in the November 2014 issue of *Buildings Magazine*, lists the ENERGY STAR tips for more efficient data centers.

## HVAC

HVAC strategies for wide day-to-day temperature fluctuations, transitioning from fall to winter, and preparing for higher demand are part of a four webpage article, “Ask An Expert: Dave Callan, HVAC” in the November 2014 issue of Building Operating Management. The section on preparing HVAC systems for higher demand focuses on schools.

Part 1: [How To Deal With Wide Day-To-Day Temperature Variations](#)

Part 2: [HVAC Strategies for the Transition From Fall to Winter](#)

Part 3: [How To Prepare HVAC Systems For Higher Demand](#)

Part 4: [Tips on Replacing or Upgrading HVAC Components](#)

## Lighting

Facility Maintenance Decisions magazine published a five-part article on wireless lighting control systems, “Product Focus: Lighting”, written by Dave Lubach in the November 2014 issue. There are many factors to consider when deciding whether or not to install wireless lighting control systems in healthcare, K-12, and higher education facilities and campuses. Specifications for selecting the appropriate system for the application are also given.

Part 1: [Wireless Lighting Controls Market by Market](#)

Part 2: [Classrooms Not Always Great Fit for Wireless Lighting Control Systems](#)

Part 3: [Healthcare Facility Concerns When Using Wireless Lighting Controls](#)

Part 4: [Six Specification Steps: Selecting a Wireless Lighting System](#)

Part 5: [Product Focus: Lighting](#)

## Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

### Making Utility Efficiency Funds Work for You

A Better Buildings Challenge webinar on working with utilities for energy savings.

- Dec. 2, 2014 online webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings Challenge*

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager Trainings

All are online webinars.

- ENERGY STAR® and Green Building Rating Systems – Dec. 2
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Dec. 3
- Energy Savings Plus Health: Indoor Air Quality Guidelines for School Building Updates – Dec. 3
- How to Apply for the ENERGY STAR – Dec. 4

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

*US EPA*

### Can Old HVAC Be Innovative? – Oregon APEM Winter Forum

This forum looks at innovative approaches to solving age-old building operations issues.

- Dec. 5, 2014 in Wilsonville, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

*Oregon APEM*

### Pumping System Optimization

- Dec. 9 in Boise, ID

[Click here for more info](#)

*NEEA Industrial Training*

### School Environmental Health and Safety Workshop

Free one-day workshops held around Washington State. Topics this year include indoor air quality, cleaning and disinfection, and integrated pest management.

- Dec. 10 in Silverdale
- Dec. 11 in Anacortes
- Dec. 18 in Tumwater

[Click here to register](#)

*Washington State Department of Health*

### Compressed Air Challenge

- Dec. 11 in Nampa, ID

[Click here for more info](#)

*NEEA Industrial Training*

### 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 – NEW classes being scheduled for 2015 – sign up for notifications for specific dates and location**
  - Level I – Spring 2015 in Tacoma
  - Level I – Spring 2015 in Seattle
  - Level I – Spring 2015 in Everett
  - Level I – Fall 2015 in Renton
  - Level I – Fall 2015 in Olympia/Lacey
  - Level II – Fall 2015 in Seattle

[Click for BOC Washington State information](#)

- **Oregon**
  - Level I – Feb. 4, 2015 in Pendleton

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### AEE (Association of Energy Engineers) Real-time Online Seminars

Webinars and live interactive courses you can take from your computer. Programs are generally two to three hours long, over a period of days. Topics include energy auditing, lighting controls, HVAC systems and much more. Visit their website for a complete list:

<http://www.aeeprograms.com/realtime/>.

## Resources for You

### Give Your Building a Holiday, Too

One of the easiest ways to save energy is to turn off equipment when it's not needed. Make sure that your building takes a long weekend by checking to see if your building management system is set for a holiday schedule on **Thursday, November 27th for Thanksgiving Day**. Most systems let you designate holidays for the entire year, saving staff time and ensuring holiday weekdays are in unoccupied mode. Remember to check your lighting system too, since it may have separate controls. Find out more about building scheduling at [BetterBricks](#).

### Green Ribbon School and District Applications now open

Washington State public and private schools, as well as public districts, are eligible to apply to be recognized as a U.S. Green Ribbon School/District. Applications are scored by a state committee, and up to four schools or districts are nominated as state finalists and forwarded on to the U.S. Dept. of Education, which selects national award recipients. Schools and districts are chosen based on significant progress towards reducing environmental impact and costs, improving the health and wellness of students and staff, and providing effective environmental and sustainability education. The deadline to apply is January 9, 2015. More information and applications are available at the [Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction website](#).

### 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 J](#) to share and ask!

### Energy Events Calendar

<http://www.energyexperts.org/TrainingEducationandEmployment/EventsCalendar.aspx>

### 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)

