

RCM NEWS

RCM News for March 2015

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.

Building Controls

“[Building Controls: The Heart of Energy Efficiency](#)” written by Lyn Corum, appeared in the March-April 2015 issue of *Business Energy*. Short case studies of agencies using three different building control systems highlight their potential to reduce energy costs and improve efficiency improvements.

Building Efficiencies

A three-webpage article on Sustainable Operations, appearing in the March 2015 issue of *Building Operating Management* and written by Karen Kroll, discusses various ways to keep a facility running efficiently, and increase efficiency. This can be done through occupant engagement, using software to benchmark and track energy use, and regularly walking through facilities to observe system use that could not be detected through software.

Part 1: [Keeping a Sustainable Building Operating Sustainably](#)

Part 2: [Tapping Occupant Behavior a Key Sustainability Strategy](#)

Part 3: [Training, Technology Upgrades Can Boost Facility's Efficiency](#)

Energy Optimization is a six-webpage article written by Ed Sullivan published in the March 2015 issue of *Building Operating Management*. To choose the best energy optimization products or services for your facilities, it is advisable to understand terminology, potential return on investment, and applicability. Research the unique benefits that different products and services bring, as well as if it will work as expected. In addition, knowing how much energy use different building systems use will help determine where the product will be most useful.

Part 1: [Making the Right Choice with Energy Optimization Products and Services](#)

Part 2: [ROI, Applicability, Operational Impact Influence Energy Decisions](#)

Part 3: [Focus on Benefits, Product Credibility in Energy Optimization Purchases](#)

Part 4: [Best Practices for Energy Optimization](#)

Part 5: [Pilot Programs, Veterans' Insights Help with Energy Optimization](#)

Part 6: [Introducing the Apex Award for Energy Optimization](#)

Financing Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency, written by Greg Zimmerman in the March 2015 issue of *Building Operating Management* is a five-webpage article examining options available to finance energy efficiency projects. Two overall categories to finance projects differ in assumption of performance risk. Risk is usually assumed by their parties for that type of financing. Assuming the risk in-house, options such as on-bill financing are often suitable for smaller prescribed projects. Property-assessed clean energy (PACE) financing, while more complicated, is also a good option in areas where state and local laws allow.

Part 1: [Finding Best Financing Options for Energy Efficiency Projects](#)

Part 2: [‘Threshold Questions’ Help Find Path to Energy Efficiency Financing](#)

Part 3: [Financing Tools Include Energy Performance Contract, Energy Service Agreement](#)

Part 4: [Utility On-bill Financing an Added Option for Energy Efficiency Projects](#)

Part 5: [PACE Financing an Option for More Extensive Energy Efficiency Projects](#)

HVAC

“[Are You Waiting for Your HVAC Equipment to Fail?](#)” is written by Martin Flusberg for the March 24, 2015 issue of *Energy Manager Today*. Planned replacement of HVAC equipment may be more cost-effective than replacing the equipment when it fails. Some of the many steps for developing a proactive HVAC replacement program include performing inventory and developing a methodology for prioritizing which order equipment is replaced.

Window Shading

“[Add Smart Shading to Solar Strategies](#)”, written by Janelle Penny, appears in the March 2015 issue of *Buildings* magazine. Exterior shading can prevent solar heat from entering a building, with the potential of reducing the need for mechanical cooling. Three categories of external shading are described, as well as tips on factors to consider when deciding the best options for your windows.

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

Northwest Facilities / Managing Green Buildings Conference

- April 1 & 2 in Portland, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

Lighting Design Lab Spring series

A morning class, Guide to Fluorescent-to-LED Troffer Upgrades, and afternoon class, LED Replacement Strategies – Socket based (non-linear), are offered throughout the Northwest.

- Bellevue, WA – Apr 2
- Everett, WA – Apr 9
- Seattle, WA – Apr 16
- Boise, ID – Apr 28
- Tacoma, WA – Apr 30

[Click here for more information](#)

Lighting Design Lab

Zero Energy Buildings: What are they and how do we build them?

- April 7 online webinar

[Click here to register](#)

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

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 – April 7 in Seattle (features a combination of classroom and online learning)
 - Level I – April 22 in Tacoma
 - Level I – May 18 in Everett
 - Level I – Sept. 23 in Renton
 - Level I – Fall 2015 in Olympia/Lacey
 - Level II – Oct. 21 in Renton

[Click for BOC Washington State information](#)

- Oregon
 - Level I – Sept 24, 2015 in Portland
 - Level I – February 2016 in Hermiston, Pendleton, La Grande area

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

E3T Emerging Technologies Showcase: Commercial HVAC Motors and Fans

Topics covered in this one hour webinar are ECPM motors driving fans and pumps, permanent magnet AC motors including Q-Sync, and high-volume, low-speed fan technology.

- April 8 online webinar

[Click here for registration and information](#)

WSU Energy Program, BPA

E3T Emerging Technologies Showcase: Commercial HVAC Variable Speed and Variable Refrigerant Heat Pumps

Topics covered in this one hour webinar are variable refrigerant flow and variable-speed split system heat pumps.

- April 14 online webinar

[Click here for registration and information](#)

WSU Energy Program, BPA

Data Center Profiler Tool Training

- April 14, 2015 online webinar

[For more information](#)

U.S.DOE EERE

Portland General Electric Seminars and Webinars

Portland General Electric offers online webinars and paid workshops open to everyone, and seminars and workshops free of charge to its commercial and industrial customers. All classes in Oregon or online.

- Better Lighting, Lower Costs – April 14 workshop in Portland
- Better Lighting, Lower Costs – April 15 workshop in Salem
- Energy Efficiency for Small & Mid-sized Business – April 22 online webinar
- Fundamentals of Compressed Air Systems – April 29 seminar in Wilsonville

[PGE Energy Education Classes](#)

Portland General Electric, Energy Trust of Oregon, NEEA, BetterBricks

Oregon's Energy Future Conference

- April 16, 2015 in Portland, OR

[For more information](#)

PGE

BOC Live Technical Webinar Series

- Communicating Energy Performance in Your Organization – April 22 online
- Communicating to Building Occupants – May 20 online

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager® Office Hours: Responding to a Data Request – April 23
- Portfolio Manager® 101 – April 28
- Portfolio Manager® 201 – April 29

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

US EPA

Energy/Facilities Connections Conference

Staying Smarter than Your Buildings is the theme of this year's outstanding conference run by the WSU Energy Program Plant Operations Support Consortium.

Note: RCMs have been spotted attending this conference, as well as presenting at workshops.

- May 5-7, 2015 in Leavenworth, WA

[For more information and registration](#)

WSU Energy Program Plant Operations Support Consortium

Certified Energy Manager Seminar & Exam

- May 11-15 at Edmonds Community College, Edmonds, WA

[Click here for more information](#)

Association of Energy Engineers Pacific Northwest Chapter

An Exciting Glimpse Into the Future of Energy Efficiency

Oregon APEM 2015 Summer Forum features Emerging Technologies

- May 22, 2015 in Portland, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

Oregon APEM

Energy Management Certificate

It's not too early to register for the annual "energy bootcamp" at the Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute. This is an advanced certificate program covering a wide array of energy management topics, and requires the student to implement and measure results from an energy-efficiency project.

- July 13-24, 2015 in Eugene, OR (*please note date change since the previous newsletter*)

[For more information](#)

NWEEI

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

Reducing Water Use

Even though it's still the rainy season in western Washington, the effects of drought will be felt, and perhaps trigger regulations, in certain areas of Washington State and elsewhere. The [Saving Water Partnership](#) based in Seattle lists incentives and rebates for cutting water use for certain water utility customers. But they also offer suggestions and helpful advice on issues from toilet and urinal fixtures to cooling tower improvements to laundry equipment.

BetterBricks Tools and Resources

BetterBricks, the commercial building initiative of the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), offers many useful resources for reducing your building's energy use. [Tools and Technical Advice](#) has links to tools such as performance indicators, the top five common opportunities for better energy performance, and a symptom-diagnosis tool for systems from boilers to water distribution to motors. [Resources](#) has links to case studies, articles, and a glossary.

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



