

# RCM NEWS

## RCM News for August 2016

A newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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### Benchmarking

“[New York City Study Conclusion: Benchmarking Works](#)”, written by Carl Weinschenk for the August 25, 2016 online issue of *Energy Manager Today*, discusses a study that offers more proof that people will save energy when they know how much energy they are using. A law mandating that New York City buildings greater than 50,000 square feet report energy and water consumption was at least partly responsible for a decrease in carbon emissions from those buildings between the onset of the law and the study date.

### Boilers and Water Heaters

“Energy Strategies” is a three-part article in the August 2016 issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions*, written by Doug Wooten. Boilers and water heaters account for much of a building’s energy use, and they can also be responsible for much wasted energy. To improve their energy efficiency, implement measures such as converting to variable-primary pumping and upgrading the building automation system. Various experts are needed to ensure efficiency, including a steam trap maintenance contractor, water-treatment professional, and the facility staff who know the facility best. A series of steps to improve the systems are listed.

Part 1: [Boilers and Water Heaters: Planning for HVAC Savings](#)

Part 2: [Taking Next Steps to Energy Efficiency in HVAC System](#)

Part 3: [Boiler and Water Heaters: No Cookie Cutter Solutions for Improved Efficiency](#)

## Economizers

[“Is your Enthalpy-based Economizer Functioning Properly?”](#) is an article written by Vamsi for the *Smart Buildings Center website* on August 8, 2016. This brief article describes the positive outcome of using a tool (borrowed from the Smart Building Center Tool Lending Library) to measure temperature and humidity of a rooftop air-handling unit controller.

## Green Colleges

“Green Educational Facilities”, written by Timothy Chatterton for the August 2016 issue of *Building Operating Management*, is a three-part article focusing on how colleges and universities can reduce energy use. While low-hanging fruit is important to pick, it may make the measures with longer paybacks less appealing. Pairing larger projects, such as boiler upgrades, with LED retrofits in one package can create a financially more appealing argument.

Part 1: [Energy Lesson Plans: How Colleges Save Money on Lighting, HVAC, Water Heating](#)

Part 2: [How To Reduce Water Heating Energy On Campus](#)

Part 3: [SIDEBAR: Hire An Energy Officer, Create Competition To Truly Save Energy](#)

## Lighting Controls

“Product Focus: Lighting Controls” is a five-part article written by Craig DiLouie for the August 2016 issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions*. Retrocommissioning lighting controls already installed in buildings can increase energy efficiency greatly, sometimes improving performance and energy savings so much that it is similar to a lighting upgrade. Retrocommissioning includes functional testing of the lighting system to verify that it is working as planned. The DesignLights Consortium now qualifies lighting controls products, which enables utilities to include them in their programs, thereby increasing demand.

Part 1: [Jump-Starting Lighting Control Systems](#)

Part 2: [Retrocommissioning Starts With Basic Review of Lighting Control System](#)

Part 3: [Making the Case for Retrocommissioning of Lighting Control Systems](#)

Part 4: [SIDEBAR: Lighting Control Specification Enables Utility Incentives](#)

Part 5: [PRODUCTS: Lighting Controls](#)

## Predictive Maintenance

[“Predictive Maintenance, It’s About the Journey, Not the Destination”](#) is written by Matt Gates for the August 9, 2016 online edition of *Energy Manager Today*. Building energy management systems (BEMS) can alert facility managers that a piece of equipment or system needs maintenance. This predictive maintenance can prevent greater problems from occurring, and can reduce unnecessary maintenance that can occur with regularly scheduled preventative maintenance.

## Sustainable Grounds Management

“Grounds Management” is a five-part article in the August 2016 issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions* written by Jana McKenzie. Sustainable grounds management practices not only reduce water use, but they protect natural resources, and can increase the value of properties. These practices include fuel switching to electric landscape equipment, reducing water and fertilizer use, reducing impermeable surfaces and keeping stormwater onsite to percolate into the ground, preventing harmful insects through integrated pest management, and, if space allows, encouraging a community and edible garden.

Part 1: [5 Steps to Sustainable Landscapes](#)

Part 2: [2. Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose Water](#)

Part 3: [3. Keep Eye on Insects Through Pest Management Control](#)

Part 4: [4. Increase Sustainability by Addressing Stormwater](#)

Part 5: [5. Incorporate Community Gardens into Landscapes](#)

## Waste Disposal

“[Energy Efficiency and Waste Disposal Grow Closer](#)”, written by Carl Weinschenk for the August 29, 2016 online edition of *Energy Manager Today*, explains what led Energy Star to add a waste and materials tracking tool to Portfolio Manager. The new tool allows benchmarking of 29 waste categories. Energy managers should also know about the Municipal Solid Waste Decision Support Tool (DST).

## Job Opportunities

### Resource Conservation Manager

Snohomish School District, based in Snohomish, WA, is hiring a Resource Conservation Manager to manage the school district’s conservation programs. Responsibilities are many, including working with utilities, benchmarking, tracking, and analyzing utility data for facilities, carrying out the energy resource district policy, working with HVAC technicians, complying with OSPI requirements, and designing and implementing energy saving strategies as well as educational opportunities.

**Position is open until filled – however, they wish to fill the position as soon as possible.**

Apply online and view the job description at <https://snohomishjobs.hrmlplus.net/JobOpenings.aspx>. Click on the Administrator/Supervisor category.

## Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

### Daylighting Controls

- Sept 8 online

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Energy Codes Program, U.S.DOE*

### Better Buildings Webinars

- Fall Tech Trends: Promising New Products from DOE – Sept 13
- Working with Your Communications Team to Tell Your Energy Efficiency Success Story – Oct 4

[Click here for more information](#)

*Better Buildings, U.S.DOE*

## ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Introducing Waste & Materials Tracking in Portfolio Manager – Sept 15
- Tackling WaterSense – Commercial Kitchens – Sept 20
- Portfolio Manager 101 – Sept 27
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Sept 28
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Sept 29
- Ask the Expert – Every Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*US EPA*

## BOC Building Tool Diagnostic Webinars

CEUs available where appropriate, and upon completion of webinar and quiz.

- Addressing Indoor Air Complaints – Sept 15
- Managing Water Use in your Facility – Oct 13

[Click here for more information](#)

*Builder Operator Certificate*

### Portland General Electric Education

- Outdoor Lighting – Sept 20 in Portland
- Motivate Your Employees to Save Energy – Sept 29

[Click here for more information](#)

*PGE, Energy Trust of Oregon*

### 2016 Oregon APEM Fall Forum

This fall meeting focuses on the business case of energy efficiency.

- Sept 23 in Portland

[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 – Sept 28, 2016 in Renton
  - Level I – 2017 in Silverdale
  - Level II – Sept 27, 2016 in Tacoma
- Oregon
  - Level I – Oct 5, 2016 in Tigard/Portland

[Click for BOC Washington State information](#)

[Click for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### Resources for You

#### Building Energy Codes

The [Building Codes Program](#) within the U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Office has various training resources, including slideshows, to get you up to speed with code requirements and more. Topics include code requirements for commercial building HVAC and lighting, as well as “Codes 101” and information on ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standards.

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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)

