

RCM News for July 2020

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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Resources

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.

COVID-19 RESOURCES

ASHRAE Guidance for Building Readiness and Reopening

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) offers guidance, links, and resources for buildings during the COVID-19 pandemic. The [commercial buildings page](#) includes recommendations on current operations, taking a holistic view of buildings, developing a preparedness plan, and specific guidance on many HVAC specifics. A separate page contains information on [building readiness](#). Links to these and other useful pages are accessible through an [infographic](#) from the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Resources for Facilities

FacilitiesNet provides a [list of resources](#) for facilities professionals to reference when dealing with the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Water Quality in Buildings during COVID-19

When buildings are closed for long periods of time and water usage is reduced, it can cause stagnant water inside the building plumbing. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers the [EPA Office of Water guidance document and checklist](#) for guidance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lane Community College Offers Apprenticeship Program

In addition to their existing Associate's degree program in Energy Management and Building Controls, Lane Community College in partnership with the University of Oregon, now offers the [Building Energy & Controls Apprenticeship \(BECA\) Program](#). Through paid internships in agencies and organizations throughout Western States, students will learn about reducing energy in commercial buildings by re-commissioning and identifying opportunities to improve HVAC, lighting, and other building systems. By the end of the internship students will be qualified to take the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) ANSI 17024 **Accredited Certified Energy Management (CEM) Certification exam**. They will also have earned their Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degree, and will have opportunities to sit for the **Building Operator Certification (BOC)** exam and the forthcoming **Association of Controls Professionals (ACP)** certification exam.

ARTICLES

Emerging Technologies Research

The [ASHRAE HVAC&R Industry News](#) for July 9, 2020 features research on a couple of promising energy-efficient new technologies. The first technology, "water-filled glass" systems, can reduce energy use in different climates by its ability to heat and cool structures without an additional energy supply. The second featured technology is a new design for a refrigeration compressor that reduces friction, making the compressor more efficient and cost-effective.

HVAC System Planning

Most of the total cost of ownership of a building's HVAC system is incurred through operating, energy, and maintenance rather than from the initial cost of the system. However, designers tend to be concerned with first cost of a system. The article "[How to Plan HVAC Systems for Long-Term Performance](#)" by James Piper in the July 2020 edition of *Building Operating Management* discusses the value of involving facility managers during the planning process for a new HVAC system because they can ensure factors such as energy efficiency, operational performance, and maintenance that impact long-term system use are considered.

Net-Zero Energy Hospitals

Hospitals are high energy use buildings that face unique challenges when working toward net-zero energy goals. An article by Peter Dahl and Manus McDevitt titled "[How Hospitals Can Achieve Net-Zero Energy](#)" in the July 2020 issue of *Building Operating Management*, discusses how hospitals use strategies focused on supply and demand to move toward reaching their zero energy goals.

Reopening Buildings

Dealing with buildings that have been empty for months and now need to prepare for reopening presents a challenge for facility professionals. In "[Pandemic Recovery Planning: A Ten Step Process](#)", an article in the July 2020 issue of *Building Operating Management* by Daniel O'Neill, shares the steps taken by two educational institutions as they prepared plans to safely reopen buildings for employees.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Better Buildings Webinars

- Succeed with Submetering: How to Make the Business Case – Aug 4

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE Better Buildings

HVAC Total System Performance Ratio (TSPR)

An introduction to the WA State Energy Code (WSEC) Commercial compliance path, which will take effect in 2021.

- Aug 5 online

[Click here for more information](#)

Evergreen Technology Consulting

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – August 5
- Portfolio Manager 201 – August 19
- ENERGY STAR and Green Building Rating Systems – August 25
- Portfolio Manager 301 – August 25
- Reduce Costs With Quick Water Wins – August 26
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

US EPA

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes.

- Audit and Retrofit Techniques – Aug 11
- Introduction to Codes & Standards – Aug 25
- Promoting Energy Efficient Lighting Systems – Sep 8
- What Went Wrong? (live panel with lighting professionals) – Sep 22

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

Lighting Design Lab

GoGreen Conference

A regional conference offering educational opportunities on sustainability for business and public sector leaders.

- Sept 8 and 9 - virtually

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington Business Alliance

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.

Contact BOC directly for information about cancellations.

All dates below are for the first class.

- Washington State
 - Level I classes
 - Sept 22, 2020 through Mar 4, 2021 in Seattle
 - TBA in 2021 in Spokane
 - Level II classes
 - Oct 12, 2020 through Mar 23, 2021 in Seattle

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

- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - July 6, 2020 through Jan 5, 2021 online
 - TBD 2020 in NE Oregon (Pendleton/La Grande)
 - Level II classes
 - TBD 2020 in Portland

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Getting to Zero Forum 2021

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

- March 15-17, 2021 – hopefully in person in New York City

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The 10th annual summit

- May 24-26, 2021 – hopefully in person in 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.

- NEW DATE! August 24-25, 2021 – hopefully in person in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center, NEEC

RESOURCES

On-Demand Learning

Many opportunities are available for on-demand learning through recorded presentations.

- [Coronavirus Information with Building Operations Focus](#), *BOMA Seattle-King County*
- [Emerging Smart Building Technology & Enhanced Building Performance](#), *Smart Buildings Center*
- [Better Buildings, Better Bodies: Strategies for Health & Wellness](#), *DOE Better Buildings*
- [The Path Forward: Perspectives on Prioritizing Energy Efficiency](#), *2020 Better Buildings Summit*
- [Approaches for Achieving Zero Energy Ready: Maximizing Efficiency and Controlling Costs](#), *2020 Better Buildings Summit, DOE*
- See more of the presentations from the [2020 Better Buildings Summit](#), *DOE*

Washington State Clean Buildings Performance Standard

The Washington State Energy Performance Standard for covered commercial buildings will affect Washington State commercial buildings with 50,000 or more square feet of conditioned space. The standard is scheduled to become law November 1, 2020, and a voluntary efficiency incentive program will run from 2021 to 2026. Visit the [Clean Buildings website](#) for more information. WSU Energy Program is providing customer support with a soon-to-be-launched website. Contact the WSU team at cleanbuildings@energy.wsu.edu.

Benchmarking Videos

Created for the Seattle Energy Benchmarking program, eight “how-to” [benchmarking videos](#) have useful information for everyone needing or wanting to perform benchmarking. Information includes an introduction to benchmarking, data collection, using utility data, and portfolio manager. All Washington State commercial buildings greater than 50,000 SF will need to benchmark for the Clean Buildings Standard – get a jump and start now!

Smart Buildings Center Remote Learning Library & Calendar

The Smart Buildings Center (SBC) Remote Learning [Library](#) and [Calendar](#) provide a clearinghouse of training information designed as a resource for commercial energy managers, trade allies, facility managers, and those with a general interest in energy efficiency to find remote learning and training opportunities.

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

