

RCM News for June 2019

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[DATE CHANGED FROM JUNE TO JULY]

WSU Energy Program and the Smart Building Council are teaming up to bring you the next RCM webinar: “The Building Walk Down: Uncovering Hidden Opportunities for Savings”. The live no-cost webinar is on Wednesday, July 24 at 12:00 noon Pacific time. [Click here](#) for more information and registration.

ARTICLES

Building Automation

Building Automation is a three-part article in the June 2019 issue of *Building Operating Management*, written by Steve Brown. Smart devices don’t automatically make a building intelligent. Smart buildings have smart devices that are interconnected and operate together. Steps to create a smart building including assessing the current framework and capabilities, setting a vision and priorities, and creating and carrying out the plan. Overcoming space constraints and finding an internal champion will help create success.

Part 1 – [5 Steps on the Road to Smart Buildings](#)

Part 2 – [3 Roadblocks to Getting to Smart Buildings](#)

Part 3 – [Long-Term Benefits of Smart Buildings](#)

Commissioning

Common mistakes made during the commissioning process is the subject of “[Three Commissioning Mistakes Can Undermine Sustainability Efforts](#)”, written by Johnathan Woodside and Steven Metzgar for the June 2019 issue of *Building Operating Maintenance*. The three most common commissioning mistakes are mechanical systems not programmed properly, BAS not programmed properly, and equipment not installed according to design.

HVAC Upgrades

A three-part article on HVAC in the June 2019 *Facility Maintenance Decisions* magazine, written by Casey Hester, focuses on lessons learned from upgrades made at Vanderbilt University. Extra reasons for an upgrade, in addition to equipment reaching their life end, are the opportunity for other energy-saving measures to be installed at the same time, increased comfort for occupants, and increasing the building’s functionality. Planning and staging a project, especially when occupants are involved, must be carefully considered.

Part 1 – [Vanderbilt University Delivers Successful HVAC Upgrades](#)

Part 2 – [HVAC Upgrades Can Lead to Broader Replacement Opportunities](#)

Part 3 – [How to Plan and Scope an HVAC Upgrade](#)

Sustainable Landscaping

A three-part article on sustainable grounds management, written by Mike Fitzpatrick for the May issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions*, describes how landscapes can be kept up while cutting down on emissions, noise, chemicals, energy, and water. An integrated pest management approach relies on natural fertilizers, less toxic methods of weed and pest control, and appropriate drainage. Reduced water and energy use are realized with efficient irrigation practices, especially when regular maintenance keeps the irrigation systems in top form.

Part 1 – [Environmentally Friendly Practices and Their Impact on Landscapes](#)

Part 2 – [Landscapes and Integrated Pest Management](#)

Part 3 – [Getting The Most Out of Irrigation Systems](#)

Zero Energy Office Buildings

The [Advanced Energy Design Guide \(AEDG\) for Small to Medium Office Buildings: Achieving Zero Energy](#) has just been released by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). This is the second zero energy guide in the series, joining the K-12 school buildings guide. Free for download, and available in print for a cost, other similar guides offer 50% energy savings. The guides have been developed through collaboration with ASHRAE, the American Institute of Architects, the Illuminating Engineering Society, and the U.S. Green Building Council, with support from U.S. DOE.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – July 2
- How to Track Waste & Materials Management – July 9
- Portfolio Manager 201 – July 16
- Beat the Peak – Using Water Wisely for Commercial Outdoor Spaces – July 17
- Portfolio Manager 301 – July 23
- Refreshing ENERGY STAR’s Ready Mixed Concrete Focus – July 24

- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

US EPA

The Building Walk Down: Uncovering Hidden Opportunities for Savings

No-cost WSU Energy Program RCM webinar.

- July 24 online webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

WSU Energy Program, Smart Buildings Center

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
 - Sept 25, 2019 through March 2020 in Seattle
 - Oct 7, 2019 through April 2020 in Tacoma
 - Spring 2020 in Spokane

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

- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - Sept 2019 in Portland area

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Getting to Zero National Forum

- Oct 9-11 in Oakland, CA

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute, Rocky Mountain Institute

EDUCATION RESOURCES

Energy Management and Water Conservation Technician Degrees – Lane Community College

Enroll for the Fall Term 2019 in either the [Energy Management Degree](#) or [Water Conservation Technician Degree](#) at the [Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute](#) at Lane Community College. Both award a two-year associate of applied science degree. Scholarships are available.

Sustainable Building Science Technology Bachelor's Degree – South Seattle College

[Enrollment is open for the Fall 2019](#) innovative two-year degree program at South Seattle College. Classes and field work prepare you for the field of highly technical sustainable building operations and facility management. Classes are mostly online and geared toward the working adult.

RESOURCES

Using the [Energy Management Assessment \(EMA\) tool](#) is a great opportunity to fine tune your energy management plan. Answer questions on a dozen areas of energy management to receive a recommended action plan report. The report identifies gaps, top recommendations, links to resources, and benchmarking against your peers. Created by strategic energy management folks at the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA).

Use the [Elevator Speech Worksheet](#) to help you refine your talking points when asking decision makers for permission to acquire equipment or services. One key factor for success is practicing the speech aloud many times. This worksheet is from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy's [50001 Ready Program](#) – a self-guided approach for facilities to create an energy management system, based on a voluntary global energy management standard called ISO 50001.

The [Attachments Energy Rating Council \(AERC\)](#) is an independent organization that provides reliable information on the energy performance of different types of window attachments. While geared toward residences, commercial buildings may also benefit from this resource. Products with an AERC energy improvement label have been reviewed and rated by the AERC. The website includes great information about different types of window attachments, how to read the AERC label, and more.

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

