

## RCM News for October 2018

### A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

*In this issue:*

Announcements

Articles

ENERGY STAR® Scores

HVAC Controls

LEED Buildings

Lighting Retrofits

Thermal Comfort

Window Films

Upcoming Events & Training Opportunities

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.*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### **Washington State Energy Efficiency and Solar Grants**

Applications are now being accepted by the Washington State Department of Commerce for grants that result in energy and operational cost savings or solar installations. Washington State local agencies, public higher education institutions, public school districts, and state agencies may apply. A Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) application must be submitted, via email, by November 16 at 5:00 PM. Information, including the NOFO, is available at the [Energy Efficiency and Solar Grants program website](#).

##### **ENERGY STAR® Web Services**

Portfolio Manager® web services uses Transport Layer Security (TLS) to provide secure communications on the Internet. [Support for TLSv1.0 is being discontinued on February 17, 2019](#) for both the LIVE and TEST environments. A verification site has been set up to help determine if your site is or is not using TLSv1.0. It is strongly encouraged that your technology support staff verify soon if your system is configured for TLS 1.1 or above.

## ARTICLES

### ENERGY STAR® Scores

As Portfolio Manager® users know, ENERGY STAR® scores for many sectors were updated recently, causing the score of many buildings to decrease as they are benchmarked against a new average building with lower energy consumption. This is due to the overall improvement of energy performance in U.S. buildings. A short article by Sarah Kloepple in the October 2018 issue of *Buildings*, "[Why Your ENERGY STAR® Score Changed](#)", describes these changes and includes a graph showing average score differences by building type between the "old" and updated benchmark.

### HVAC Controls

"[Trending: Individual HVAC Control](#)" was written by Janelle Penny for the 10/12/18 online issue of *Buildings* magazine. It may sound strange to suggest individual temperature control for office occupants, yet it turns out that it might reduce energy use and make occupants happier. There are limits to what occupants can do, such as how much or for how long they can change the temperature. Building managers can track these changes to improve overall comfort. Many products can also give the occupant more control over their lighting and more.

### LEED Buildings

"[Workers in LEED Green Buildings Are Happier, Healthier, More Productive](#)", written for the October 23, 2018 online issue of *Facility Executive* magazine share results from a recent survey from the U.S. Green Building Council. The survey shows that outdoor views and sunlight available in many LEED-certified buildings can improve occupant productivity, health, and happiness. In addition, the majority of workers in LEED buildings prefer being part of a company that has strong, positive values.

### Lighting Retrofits

"[LED Lighting Retrofit Benefits Town](#)", an article in the October 2018 issue of *Buildings*, written by Valerie Dennis Craven, editor in chief, tells the story of how a small town in Wisconsin lowered their energy costs and improved safety by performing LED lighting retrofits at seven of its buildings.

### Thermal Comfort

A three-part article in the October 2018 issue of *Building Operating Management* magazine, written by Patricia Kaufmann and Samantha Longshore, discusses thermal comfort in offices. Maintaining a comfortable environment that is neither too hot nor too cold for the majority of office workers benefits productivity, as well as frees up maintenance staff from dealing with complaints. Some common issues can be dealt with simply by, for example, keeping HVAC equipment clean and inspecting areas such as terminal boxes and ductwork. Locating grills, diffusers, sensors, and thermostats in the best possible space is very important, as is educating the occupants about normal hot and cold spots. Lastly, larger HVAC problems may require specialists in test and balance, mechanical, and building automation.

Part 1 – [Office Thermal Comfort: Simple Fixes and Beyond](#)

Part 2 – [Inspections, Education, Adjustments Can Help Solve Office Temperature Complaints](#)

Part 3 – [Finding the Right Resources to Solve Too Hot/Too Cold Problems](#)

## Window Films

Window films can be a more cost effective way than window replacements to meet energy and aesthetic goals. "[Five Ways Window Film Can Benefit Your Building](#)", written by Janelle Penny for the October 2018 issue of *Buildings*, touches upon the different qualities of window films, as well as their aesthetic benefits. New research indicates that window films in the future may even generate small amounts of electricity.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Deep Retrofit Pay for Performance Program

Join Seattle City Light as they launch their commercial Deep Retrofit Pay for Performance Program.

- Oct 31 Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

*Seattle City Light*

### Best Lighting Retrofits Now and Future Impacts

Fall 2018 Lighting Design Lab Classes

- Fundamentals of Lighting Control – morning class
  - Lighting Retrofits and Audits – afternoon class
    - Nov 1 in Tacoma
- Register for one or both classes
- Big Box Retail Lighting
    - Nov 6 in Tacoma
    - Nov 8 in Seattle
    - Nov 13 in Everett

[Click here for more information](#)

*Lighting Design Lab*

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Nov 6
- Benchmarking Water and Wastewater Systems in Portfolio Manager – Nov 8
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Nov 8
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Nov 13
- EPA's 1-100 Water Score for Multifamily Buildings – Nov 14
- Demand 101 – Tracking and Benchmarking – Nov 29
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*US EPA*

### Bright Idea: Lighting Toolkit for K-12 School Districts

- Nov 6 Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

*Better Buildings, U.S. DOE*

### Sky Glow Comparison Tool

Learn about a method that compares contributions to sky glow among lighting products.

- Nov 8 Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

*Better Buildings, U.S. DOE*

### Next Level Energy Efficiency Workshop

- Nov 14 all-day workshop in Portland

[Click here for more information](#)

*NW Energy Coalition*

### Clean & Affordable Energy Conference

- Nov 15 in Portland

[Click here for more information](#)

*NW Energy Coalition*

### 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 are scheduled for Burlington and Spokane in Spring 2019, and Seattle and Tacoma in Fall 2019
  - Level II class is scheduled for Seattle in Spring 2019
- Oregon
  - Level I classes
    - Sept 2019 TBA in the Portland area
  - Level II classes
    - January 9, 2019 in Portland (Registering Now)

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

## RESOURCES

### Zero Energy Buildings

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) recently published a 22-page white paper "[Pathways to Zero Energy Buildings through Building Codes](#)". Sections include calculating zero energy building (ZEB) performance, barriers to achieving ZEBs through codes, current zero energy codes and initiatives, proposed code changes for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) 90.1, and recommendations for upcoming code changes. One of the barriers to achieving ZEB is the common

misperception that buildings need only add solar energy to reach zero energy. In actuality, as all RCMs know, energy efficiency is the most cost effective method to reduce load and offers non-energy benefits such as greater comfort.

### Deep Retrofit Pay for Performance

Seattle City Light is launching a new [Pay for Performance](#) program for their commercial customers. Pay for Performance offers an incentive amount for total energy saved, as compared to the common method of paying incentives for individual measures. Performance period options are three-year or five-year, with a minimum of 50,000 square feet of conditioned space required, though there are exceptions. An [October 31 webinar](#) offers more in depth information.

### 2018 Commissioning Conference

Presentations from the [CxEnergy 2018 Conference](#), the annual conference for commissioning professionals, are available online. Presentations include test & balance, benchmarking with DOE's and EPA's BenchmarkMyBuilding, and other commissioning topics.

### Green Ribbon Schools

Is your school reducing environmental impacts and costs, providing sustainability education, and improving the health and wellness of students and staff? If yes, nominate your school for a U.S. Department of Education [Green Ribbon Schools award](#). The Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction will select finalists to be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Education for possible national award selection. Applications are due in December 2018.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 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.

### RCM News is prepared by the Washington State University Energy Program

This activity is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Program. Funds provided through the Washington Department of Commerce Energy Division.

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)

