

# RCM NEWS

## RCM News for May 2021

### 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.*

#### JOB OPPORTUNITY

##### Climate Resiliency Program Manager, Portland Public Schools

This position for Portland Public Schools develops, implements, and evaluates aspects of district-wide climate resiliency and carbon reduction strategies. The Climate Resiliency Program Manager also manages District-wide sustainability efforts related to energy and carbon reduction, including energy use and carbon emissions tracking and reporting. This position is within Facilities & Asset Management at Portland Public Schools in Oregon.

**Accepting applications until 7/1/2021. Anticipated start date is 8/2/2021.**

[Click here](#) for job description, and [click here](#) to access application.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### Webinar on Clean Buildings Standards – Operations & Maintenance

The final webinar in the [WSU Energy Program series on the Washington State Clean Buildings Performance Standard](#) occurs June 9 on the topic of Operations & Maintenance. Although geared toward RCMs and energy managers, these webinars are open to all and at no charge. Click here to register. [Click here](#) for recording and slides of the March 30, April 21, and May 19 webinars.

## ARTICLES

### Efficiency in Planning, Design, Construction

“[How to Consider Energy in Planning, Design, and Construction](#)” written by Scott Czubkowski in the May 2021 issue of *Building Operating Management*, examines ways energy efficiency can be integrated during the planning, design and construction phases of buildings. Considering energy efficiency during this time can help optimize building performance, increase sustainability, and also save time and money over energy efficiency measures that may be made during building retrofits.

### Embodied Carbon Reduction

Embodied carbon is a measure of the greenhouse gas emissions from the materials used in creating a building. “[How to Reduce Embodied Carbon in Facilities](#)” by Dirk Kestner in the May 2021 issue of *Building Operating Management* discusses the use of data tools such as Life Cycle Assessment that owners can use when selecting building materials that will help them reduce the embodied carbon of their building. The article also describes strategies that can be taken to reduce embodied carbon at the organizational, building and product level.

### Metal Buildings

People often think of metal buildings as poor performers when it comes to energy efficiency. A two part article by Joy Choquette in the May 2021 issue of *Building Operating Management* points out that metal buildings can be as efficient as other buildings if steps are taken to minimize thermal bridging and eliminate air leakage during the design and build stages. The articles also discuss considerations for retrofitting metal buildings and the importance of roof and wall improvements during the retrofits.

Part 1 – [Understanding the Energy Efficiency Benefits of Metal Buildings](#)

Part 2 – [Important Considerations for Retrofitting with Metal](#)

### Zero-Energy and Zero-Carbon Building

The Catalyst Building in Spokane, Washington, completed in 2020, is home to several Eastern Washington University programs and McKinstry offices. Not only is the building highly sustainable, it was built to model affordable construction. In “[New Building in Spokane to Become Largest Net Zero Energy and Carbon Building in North America](#)”, appearing in *Buildings* on May 5, 2021, the author Robert Nieminen highlights zero energy features such as east/west orientation, shallow floor plates, deep daylighting, and extremely tight air sealing. The Catalyst Building is part of the [South Landing Eco-District](#), a collaborative effort with a vision for new, sustainable shared energy, and new building techniques and materials. (See the Resources section in this newsletter for additional fact sheets and case studies on South Landing.)

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP) Training

The DCEP training program certifies energy practitioners qualified to evaluate the energy status and efficiency opportunities in data centers. Course curriculum teaches proven best practices as well as new tools and techniques in IT equipment, air management, cooling systems, and electrical systems.

February trainings are listed below. Click on the link to see March trainings.

- Data Center: Generalist – June 1
- Data Center: HVAC Specialist – June 2-3
- Data Center: Generalist & HVAC Specialist – June 1-3
- Data Center: IT Specialist – June 4

[Click here for more information](#)

*Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, FEMP*

### eProject Builder Introductory Webinars

eProject Builder is a web-based data management platform to preserve, track, and report information for energy projects.

- Webinar – June 1, 10, 22

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. DOE, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*

### Clean & Affordable Energy Conference

- June 2 and June 10 – virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

*NW Energy Coalition*

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – June 2
- Portfolio Manager 201 – June 8
- Benchmarking Wastewater Treatment Plants and Drinking Water Treatment Systems – June 9
- Benchmarking as a Service with ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager – June 9
- Portfolio Manager 301 – June 15
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – June 16
- Making the Business Case and Getting Buy-In for Building Energy Benchmarking – June 17
- Integrating Indoor Air Quality and Energy Efficiency in K-12 Schools – June 30
- Beat the Peak - Using Water Wisely for Commercial Outdoor Space – June 30
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR*

### Better Buildings Summer Webinar Series

- Electrifying Our Buildings: Challenges and Solutions – June 8
- Becoming ESPC-Ready – June 15
- Boosting Industrial and Manufacturing Efficiency and Resiliency with CHP – June 17
- Financing in Higher Education – June 22
- What's Hot with Heat Pumps – June 29
- How to Identify CHP Projects that Fit Your Goals – July 1

- Kick the Tires: Understanding the Role of R&D in the Deployment of Building Energy Technologies – July 6
- ESPC in the eXpress Lane: New Project Tracking Tools – July 13
- Workplace Evolution: Supporting Occupant Health While Achieving Energy Efficiency – July 20
- Energy-Saving Envelope Success Stories – July 27

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. Dept of Energy Better Buildings*

### O&M for Clean Buildings

A series of webinars focusing on operations & maintenance and energy management plans for the Clean Buildings Standards, as well as a brief overview of the Standards, tune-ups, and more.

- Operations & Maintenance for Clean Buildings – June 9

[Click here for more information](#)

*Washington State University Energy Program*

### Oregon APEM Summer Series 2021

- Innovative HVAC Solutions – Jun 10 webinar
- Other webinars July 8 and August 12, topics TBD

[Click here for more information](#)

*Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers*

### Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Code Compliance: Heat Pump Space Heating for Commercial & Institutional Buildings – June 15
- Code Compliance: Heat Pump Water Heating in Seattle – June 22

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

*Lighting Design Lab*

### 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
    - Fall 2021 Zoom course for Western WA residents
    - Fall 2021 Zoom course for Eastern WA and Idaho residents
  - Level II classes
    - Oct 13, 2021 through Mar 31, 2022 – via Zoom

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

- Oregon
  - Level I classes
    - Aug 5, 2021 through March 3, 2022 via Zoom

- Level II classes
  - Aug 3, 2021 through Jan 4, 2022 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

### Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual summit: “Reflecting & Refocusing on a Resilient Future”.

- Aug 16-18, 2021 – 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.

- Aug 24-25, 2021 – Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center, NEEC*

### Northwest Facilities Expo

A broad based facilities event with an emphasis on green buildings that features the latest products and services in the industry.

- September 1-2, 2021 – Portland, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

*NW Facilities Expo*

### Smart Building Center Technical Webinar Series

- Plug Load Efficiency for Commercial Buildings – Sept 29, 2021

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center*

### 2021 Getting to Zero Forum 2021

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

- Oct 27-29, 2021 – New York City

[Click here for more information](#)

*New Buildings Institute*

## RESOURCES

### Buildings, Energy, and Sustainability Podcast Series

[Radio BE-Ex](#) features live podcasts on the intersection of buildings, energy, and sustainability. The series is produced by the Building Energy Exchange (BE-Ex), which promotes energy and lighting efficiency solutions to the real estate and design communities in New York City, although many of the concepts

and information are applicable everywhere. Upcoming podcasts include Passive House design which discusses decarbonizing buildings at any scale, the Power of Daylight, and Social Equity and Daylighting. Past episodes are also available.

### South Landing Development Case Studies

BetterBricks has produced a number of case studies featuring different aspects of the South Landing Development and Catalyst building in Spokane (see articles above). These include, [The South Landing Development: Ambitious Reductions in Carbon and Energy Use](#), [The South Landing Eco-District: Sharing Energy and Information](#), [The South Landing Development: Advanced Energy Efficiency Strategies](#), and [The South Landing Development: Inspiring Tenant Engagement](#).

### Clean Buildings Website

Visit the Washington State Department of Commerce [Clean Buildings website](#) for information, resources, and support to comply with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Information on the standards and the Early Adopter Incentive Program, as well as how to comply and resources are now available.

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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)

