

# RCM NEWS

## RCM News for November 2020

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

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## JOB OPPORTUNITY

### Energy Program Manager

The Washington Department of Enterprise Services is seeking an Energy Program Manager to provide planning, leadership, management, and implementation of programs including the Energy Savings Performance Contracting program, the statewide Resource Conservation Management program, the Building Commissioning program, and the Energy Life Cycle Cost Analysis program. Candidate must be a professional architect or engineer licensed in Washington State.

[Click here](#) for detailed job description and to apply.

**Position is open until filled. Application review began on 11/26/2020.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Power Factor Fact Sheet

WSU Energy Program recently updated the [Reducing Power Factor Cost Fact Sheet](#) to offer understanding of what power factor is and how facilities can reduce power factors and save money. Power factor is a measure of the apparent power compared to the real power that a building uses. While power factor can be a complicated concept, it can lead to utilities charging higher rates to facilities that have power factor issues.

## Washington State Energy Efficiency and Solar Grants

The application period for the Washington State Energy Efficiency Grant Program is now open. Applications are due in January 2021. Eligible applicants include Washington State local agencies, public higher education institutions, public school districts, state agencies, and federally recognized tribal governments. Priority for awards will be given to projects that leverage a higher percentage of non-state funds, projects with higher energy savings, and first-time applicants. More information may be found at the Washington State Department of Commerce [Energy Efficiency Grant Program website](#).

## ARTICLES

### Boiler & Water Heater Efficiency

Boilers and water heaters are some of the biggest energy users in buildings and yet they also offer opportunities for large energy savings. A two part article in the November issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions* by James E. Piper discusses how performing a condition assessment and an evaluation of operating efficiency on these systems can help determine if the best path to potential savings is through system repair or replacement.

Part 1: [Tool for Maximizing Boiler and Water Heater Efficiency](#)

Part 2: [Operations and Maintenance Considerations for Peak Boiler Efficiency](#)

### Data Centers

Updating older data centers to operate efficiently and keeping up with maintenance may provide many more productive years, and be less expensive than upgrading to a cloud or co-location option. "[How to Reduce Energy Use in Legacy Data Centers](#)", written by Rita Tatum for the November 2020 issue of *Building Operating Management*, offers options for improving energy efficiency in legacy data centers, such as managing cooling airflow, and retrofitting fans and pumps with variable speed units.

### Post COVID-19 Sustainability

The COVID-19 pandemic forced many to work from their homes and put a focus on health and wellness and the overall work environment. "[Going Beyond Green: The Evolution of Sustainability in a Post COVID-19 World](#)" in the November issue of *Building Operating Management*, Zain Jaffer discusses the challenges and opportunities to make offices more sustainable and attractive to workers as they eventually return to the office environment.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Carbon Reduction Webinar

A webinar discussing best practices for achieving cost savings and carbon reduction at scale.

- Scaling Impact: Multi-Building Approaches to Carbon Reduction – Dec 1

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings*

## Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes.

- Networked Lighting Controls for Schools – Dec 1
- Networked Lighting Controls User Experience Findings – Dec 15
  - Lessons learned and key takeaways from a research project about NLC user interfaces

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

*Lighting Design Lab*

## ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Dec 1
- Benchmarking Wastewater Treatment Plants and Drinking Water Treatment Systems – Dec 1
- Achieving Water and Cost Savings in Capital Improvement Projects – Dec 2
- Lighting Up Energy Savings with LED Upgrades – Dec 3
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – Dec 8
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Dec 9
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Dec 10
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

*US EPA*

## Clean Buildings Incentives Webinar

Information and discussion about continued development of the Early Adopter Incentive Program for the Washington Energy Performance Standard for Commercial Buildings..

- Incentive Guidelines and Development Webinar – Dec 2

[Click here for more information](#)

*Washington State Department of Commerce*

## Seattle Energy Code Updates Webinar

A webinar highlighting proposed updates to the Seattle Energy Code.

- Reaching Climate Goals through Code: Proposed Updates to the Seattle Energy Code – Dec 2

[Click here for more information](#)

*Shift Zero*

## Building Energy Exchange Webinars

A webinar series to share knowledge on achieving the highest level of efficiency in buildings.

- The Future of Water – Dec 2
- Better Ventilation: Solutions for Multifamily Buildings – Dec 8

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Energy Exchange*

### Getting to Zero Webinar Series

A webinar series to share knowledge on achieving the highest level of efficiency in buildings.

- Getting to Zero in Affordable Multifamily Buildings – Dec 3

[Click here for more information](#)

*New Buildings Institute*

### Life Cycle Impacts of Buildings Webinar Series

- “Real Life” Buildings Striving to Minimize Life Cycle Impacts – Dec 3
- Intersection of Life Cycle Impacts and Circular Economy Potential – Dec 17

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings, Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy*

### Federal Energy Management Program Trainings

Webinars presented by the Office of Energy Management and Renewable Energy for the Federal Energy Management Program.

- eProject Builder (ePB) Demonstration (Introductory) – Dec 10

[Click here for more information](#)

- Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP) Training Program – Jan 12-14

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy*

### Oregon APEM Fall Series 2020

- Business Panel on Growing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Industry – Dec 10

[Click here for more information](#)

*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.

**Contact BOC directly for information about cancellations.**

*All dates below are for the first class.*

- Washington State
  - Level I classes
    - Virtual – date TBD Spring 2021
    - Location/delivery TBD – Fall 2021
  - Level II classes
    - Virtual – date TBD Spring 2021
    - Location/delivery TBD – Fall 2021

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

- Oregon
  - Level I classes
    - Jan 14, 2021 through July 8, 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*

### GoGreen Conference

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

- April 6, 2021

[Click here for more information](#)

*Washington Business Alliance*

### Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

- August 24-25, 2021 – hopefully in person in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center, NEEC*

### 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

### BOC Bulletin

The Summer/Fall 2020 issue of the [Building Operator Certification BOC Bulletin](#) features “Water Conservation and Efficiency for Building Operators”, which discusses the importance of soil in order to conserve water in landscaping. Read about the energy-saving successes of BOC graduates and what a

BOC instructor thinks about teaching the certification courses. The bulletin's technology highlight explores resources available for the transition to high-efficiency smart pumps.

### BetterBricks and CRE Hub

One of the best repositories of resources and tools for RCMs and others working toward energy efficient commercial buildings is [CRE Hub](#), from BetterBricks, a project of Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. Find solutions to problems such as with sensors or chillers, learn about lighting controls, or gather information on non-energy benefits to influence management decisions on energy projects. Use the Building Lifecycle tool to narrow results for a particular type of building and activity, such as maintenance or tune-up.

### COVID-19 Resources

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.

### 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.

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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)

