

RCM News for December 2019

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

May you have an energy efficient New Year!

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Getting to Zero Buildings Database

Gain recognition for your low energy or zero energy commercial building by submitting your project to the New Buildings Institute “[Getting to Zero Buildings Database](#)”. As more database entries are added, awareness of the growing demand for such buildings increases.

Washington State Energy Performance Standard for Commercial Buildings

Pre-rulemaking workshops are well underway for the [Clean Buildings bill](#), a 2019 Washington State law administered by the Washington State Department of Commerce. The law aims to reduce carbon and energy use in non-residential commercial buildings having greater than 50,000 square feet in conditioned floor area by requiring compliance with a (yet-to-be-developed) energy performance standard. Six workshops have taken place, with information on topics such as Standard 100, audits, building types, EUI target setting, and conditional compliance. Additional workshops will be held in early 2020. Review past workshops, sign up for future ones, and review other information at the [Clean Buildings website](#).

ARTICLES

Harmonious Grid

The second installment of the NW Energy Coalition's series on the harmonious grid, "[Emerging Technologies of the Harmonious Grid](#)", published November 2019, focuses on customer-side grid resources such as energy efficiency, demand response, distributed generation, and storage to reduce future electricity use. Improvements and innovations in technologies from HVAC to lighting and appliances provide reduced energy efficiency at less than the cost of producing new energy.

HVAC Maintenance

"[Tackling HVAC Deferred Maintenance](#)", authored by Alan Wozniak and published in the December 2019 issue of *Facility Executive*, attests that routine maintenance, including regular cleaning and scheduled inspections, can reduce a building's operational cost as well as increase occupant safety. Putting off needed maintenance can increase energy costs, lead to eventual system failure, and cause poor indoor air quality which can affect staff productivity.

LEDs

Retrofitting a lighting system with LEDs has many benefits, including lower energy bills and maintenance costs, and a reduced carbon footprint. "[Five Tips for Selecting LEDs](#)", written by Lindsay Audin for the December 2019 issue of *Building Operating Management*, offers suggestions for getting the most out of new LEDs and LED controls. Tips include using the current lighting system as a baseline to get a realistic projection of estimated savings. In addition, pay attention to the placing of the luminaires, the angle of the light's beam, and the light's color.

Sustainable Grounds Management

Sustainable grounds management is the focus of a three-part article in the December 2019 issue of *Facility Maintenance Decisions*, written by James Piper. Irrigation management, maintenance equipment, landscape design, and ice and snow removal are areas that can benefit from sustainable options. Use of environmentally friendly ice removal products, worker training for improved irrigation methods, and electric powered equipment are examples of grounds management that can reduce water and energy use, and be gentler on the landscape.

Part 1: [Strategies and Tactics for Sustainable Grounds](#)

Part 2: [Sustainable Grounds: Spotlight on Mulching and Recycling](#)

Part 3: [Irrigation Issues for Sustainable Grounds](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Financing Approaches for Getting to Zero Schools

- Jan 9 online webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

Lighting Research Center (LRC) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

A new interactive webinar series on the latest research in lighting.

- Lighting Controls: What works? Lessons from the Field – January 14, 2020
- Light and Health: Cutting through the Noise – February 4, 2020

[Click here for more information](#)

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jan 15
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jan 22
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jan 29
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

US EPA

Better Buildings Webinars

- How much energy are your devices consuming? – Jan 22 webinar
Plug load disaggregation and a look to the future of device energy reporting
- Save Money and Build Resilience with Distributed Energy Technologies – Feb 4 webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE Better Buildings

2020 Lighting Research & Development Workshop

Top lighting scientists and industry experts will share the latest on lighting science and technology advances.

- January 28-30, 2020 in San Diego, CA

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. Department of Energy and the Illuminating Engineering Society

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
 - Begins April 2020 in Bothell
 - Begins May 2020 in Kent
 - Begins September 2020 in Spokane
 - Begins October 2020 in Seattle

- Level II classes
 - Begins November 2020 in Seattle
- [Click here for BOC Washington State information](#)
- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - January 22 to April 24, 2020 in Vancouver, WA (**registering now**)
 - June 2020 in Salem-Keizer (closed)
 - TBD in NE Oregon (Pendleton/La Grande)
 - Level II classes
 - TBD 2020 in Portland

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

RESOURCES

Energy Efficiency Impact Report

Energy efficiency investments, policies, and innovation in the U.S. since 1980 have significantly contributed to increased energy savings, reduced carbon emissions, productivity savings, and more. The [Energy Efficiency Impact Report](#), recently published by the American Council for an Energy-Efficiency Economy (ACEEE), Alliance to Save Energy, and the Business Council for Sustainable Energy quantifies these impacts and examines efficiency progress from many sectors. The report makes the case that the U.S. could further reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2050, however the current energy climate in the country is an impediment to further progress.

Modern Energy Management Podcast.

Energy Managers now have their very own podcast! Produced by Lucid, the [Modern Energy Management](#) podcast presents stories about energy management from sustainability, energy, and facility leaders. Among the podcasts are interviews featuring staff from colleges such as Gonzaga, Carleton, and Weber State University; and from cities such as Boston and Orlando. Although interviewees are users of Lucid energy management products, they are nonetheless informative.

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

