



RCM News for August 2023

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

The WSU Energy Program welcomes Hari Nath to the RCM team. Over the next few months, Hari will be taking over writing and distribution of the RCM Newsletter, as well as future webinars and other RCM projects. Hari has a background in building systems, and is eager to help RCMs be successful.

SnoPUD Clean Buildings Accelerator

Snohomish PUD is recruiting for a new Clean Buildings Accelerator cohort launching on October 3rd. Join an online info session on September 20 ([register here](#)) to learn more about how this free program helps commercial businesses save energy, money, and comply with the WA Clean Buildings requirements. [Click here](#) for more information or email cleanbuildings@snopud.com.

Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator

The next coaching session for the [Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator program](#) begins September 13 – space is limited so [enroll now!](#) The program, run by the Seattle Office of Sustainability & Environment, is a four month, no-cost, virtual training program for Seattle commercial building owners designed to help you understand and comply with Washington’s Clean Buildings Law (HB1257.2019). BIPOC,

nonprofits, and owners of buildings that serve or are in frontline communities are especially encouraged to enroll. View the [Clean Buildings Accelerator Information Session](#) video to see an overview of the program.

[Puget Sound Energy Clean Buildings Accelerator](#)

Commercial building owners, or their partners, in Puget Sound Energy (PSE) territory can sign up for [PSE's Clean Buildings Accelerator program](#) for guidance, tailored coaching, and more in order to comply with Washington's Clean Buildings Law. Enroll now for the first cohort which begins Sept 14 or register for the Sept 7 virtual orientation session. Other sessions take place on Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 14, or Dec. 12.

[2023 Smart Buildings Exchange](#)

In case you missed it, the session recordings from the third annual [Smart Buildings Exchange conference](#), from the Smart Buildings Center, are now available. Sessions, which include Smart Approaches for Building Electrification & Carbon Reduction, Moving Beyond Fault Detection & Diagnostics, and Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings, can be accessed directly from the [Smart Buildings Center YouTube Channel](#).

[ARTICLES](#)

[Commercial Secondary Windows](#)

"[Commercial Secondary Windows: Better Comfort, More Savings, Easier Compliance](#)", appearing on **page nine** of the Summer/Fall 2023 issue of the *BOC Bulletin*, highlights the advantages of Comfortable Secondary Windows (CSWs) as an economical means for buildings to comply with Building Performance Standards. The author, Rick Dunn, Senior Product Manager at the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), summarizes field tests conducted by NEEA, which show that CSWs improve thermal comfort across climates, reduce noise transmission, and lower air leakage. Furthermore, the installation of CSWs is projected to yield whole-building energy savings, and the technology presents multiple avenues for cost reduction.

[DOE Recognition for Excellence in Lighting](#)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recognized 14 organizations in their 2023 Integrated Lighting Campaign (ILC). In "[DOE Recognizes 14 Organizations for Excellence in Commercial Lighting Systems](#)", published August 8, 2023 by the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, eleven participants were recognized for categories such as advanced use of sensors and controls, germicidal systems for energy savings, and energy justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion. A Seattle organization reduced a number of lights, bringing their energy usage down by approximately 80%. Needing to increase light levels to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, a university upgraded to LED lighting and control system, reducing energy use by 83%.

[HVAC Systems and Windows](#)

Joseph W. Lstiburek, in his article "[The Odd Couple: HVAC Systems and Windows](#)", published in the August 2022 *ASHRAE Journal*, writes about the improvements to HVAC and windows from "way back

in the day” to present. The article explains how air movement in rooms changed when building insulation and window insulation improved, which affected indoor humidity and forced supply and return duct locations to change to accommodate the change in air movement patterns.

Lighting Retrofits

Angela Pilant’s article “[Retrofitting Meant for People: How LLLC is Lightening the Load of Legacy Lighting](#)”, published in the March/April 2023 issue of *Facility Management Journal Online*, describes how transitioning from fluorescent bulbs to LEDs serves people by reducing time, money and improving experiences. The case study describes how Seattle City Light helped Associated General Contractors of Washington (AGCW) with an incentive to install LEDs along with the added flexibility of a Network Lighting Controls system, including Luminaire Level Lighting Controls (LLLC). Not only did AGCW reduce the total number of fixtures by 43 percent, but the LLLC installation reduced energy usage and costs significantly further, serving as a model for lighting retrofit projects in modern offices.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Sep 5
- How to Apply for Tenant Space Recognition – Sep 5
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – Sep 6
- Energy Benchmarking Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants in Portfolio Manager – Sep 7
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Sep 12
- Verifying the Application for ENERGY STAR Tenant Space Recognition – Sep 12
- Saving Water and Costs in Restrooms with WaterSense – Sep 13
- How to Apply for ENERGY STAR Certification – Sep 14
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Sep 19
- Verifying ENERGY STAR Certification – Sep 19
- ENERGY STAR for Commercial Kitchens – Sep 20
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Clean Buildings Performance Standard

Workshops for the Comprehensive Draft Review of the Clean Buildings Tier 2 Rulemaking.

- Sep 7 – Virtual only
- Sep 11 – Virtual and in-person (Seattle)
- Sep 12 – Virtual and in-person (Spokane)
- Sep 12 – Virtual and in-person (Kennewick)

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington State Department of Commerce

Energy Management Trainings and Certifications

- Premier Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Training Program – Sep 11-Sep 15
- Effective Energy Management Master Plan Online Training Program – Sep 13-15
- Thermodynamics and HVAC Online Training Program – Sep 21-22
- Accelerated Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Online Training Program – Sep 25-29

[Click here for more information](#)

The Association of Energy Engineers

Better Buildings Webinar Series

All online webinars

- Nothing to Sneeze At: Health Benefits of Electrification in Multifamily Housing – Sep 12
- Home Energy Score 101: Assessing Efficiency and Savings – Sep 12
- The Grass is Always Greener: Best Practices for Water-Efficient Landscaping – Oct 3
- Charging Ahead: Accelerating Electric Vehicle Adoption – Oct 17
- The Power of Partnership in Emissions Reduction Planning with Local Governments – Oct 31
- Enhancing Energy Management: Using 50001 Ready to Achieve Decarbonization Goals – Nov 14
- Coining a Cleaner Future: How to Finance your Emissions Reduction Plan – Nov 28

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE Better Buildings

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
 - Level I classes
 - Sept 19 & 20, 2023 to Feb 27, 2024 in Seattle
 - Level II class
 - Oct 25, 2023 to Feb 29, 2024 via Zoom

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

- Oregon
 - Level I class
 - Jan 4 to Jul 11, 2024 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Oregon information.](#)

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

Smart Building Center Technical Webinars

- Distributed Energy Resources & Resiliency – Sep 20 Virtual
- Opportunities to Optimize Performance through Digital Twin Technology – Oct 18 Virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Illuminating Engineering Society Webinars

- How We are Thinking Differently About Outdoor Lighting These Days – Sep 21
- GUV [germicidal ultraviolet]: Pandemic Fad, or Game-Changing Technology for Healthy and More Energy-Efficient Buildings? – Sep 28
- How can Metrics and Guidelines Help us Fix Flicker? – Oct 23

[Click here for more information](#)

Illuminating Engineering Society, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Clean Buildings Symposium

- Sep 28 in Bellevue

[Click here for more information.](#)

Cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Redmond, & Kirkland

BCxA Events

- BCxA Annual Conference – Oct 4 in Orlando, FL
- New Construction and Existing Building workshop and the one-day Building Enclosure Workshops – Nov 13 in Austin, TX

[Click here for more information.](#)

Building Commissioning Association

2023 Decarbonization Conference for the Built Environment

- Oct 25 to Oct 27 in Washington D.C. Metro Area

[Click here for more information.](#)

RESOURCES

BOC Bulletin

The [Summer/Fall 2023 BOC Bulletin](#), published by the Building Operator Certification program, features articles about decarbonization (including an accompanying quiz) and commercial secondary windows (see article summary above), as well as regular items such as BOC instructor and graduate interviews, case studies, and continuing education information. [Click here for access to past issues.](#)

Washington Clean Buildings Performance Standard Library

The Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS) Document Library, located on the Washington State Department of Commerce website, lists active guidance documents, flowcharts, and tools, to help facilitate accurate interpretation of the CBPS. The Library is regularly updated to include new documents as they are published. Two new reporting tools, [Energy Management Plan Report Tool](#) and [Operations and Maintenance Reporting Tool](#), were recently added. [Click here for more information.](#)

FEMP Climate Smart Building Initiative (CSBI) Tool

The Federal Emergency Management Program (FEMP) has developed the Climate Smart Buildings Initiative (CSBI) Tool, an Excel based workbook, to provide a data-driven method for federal agencies to estimate the reduction in their energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions for their facility portfolios from their planned performance contracts. [Click here for more information and to download the CSBI tool.](#)

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

