

## RCM News for December 2023

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

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Clean Buildings Upcoming Events

In conjunction with expanding the Clean Buildings Performance Standard (SB5722), the Washington State Department of Commerce is hosting a workshop for developing guidelines for the Tier 2 incentive program. The date is to be determined – [register](#) to receive notice. More information about the expansion of the Clean Buildings Performance Standard and public hearings can be found [here](#).

#### Puget Sound Energy Support for the Clean Buildings Law

Owners, facility managers, property managers, or lessees of commercial buildings sized 50,000 square feet or greater, likely need to comply with the State of Washington's Clean Buildings Performance Standard (Law) soon. Contractor with commercial customers may also need to understand compliance. Learn about what compliance means through Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) no-cost Accelerator program. The program will unpack the complex law, meet customers where they're at with energy use, and teach how to comply and go beyond through a hands-on virtual training using one's own building(s). Additional PSE energy-management and incentive programs may also be leveraged. [Watch this three-minute video](#) to learn more. Visit [www.pse.com/cleanbuildings](http://www.pse.com/cleanbuildings) to find vital Clean Buildings information or to [sign up](#) for upcoming virtual orientations and cohort trainings

starting in January 2024. To speak with a representative or ask a question, contact PSE at [cleanbuildings@stillwaterenergy.com](mailto:cleanbuildings@stillwaterenergy.com)

### Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator Program

The City of Seattle's Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) offers a no-cost Clean Buildings Accelerator program to help owners and operators of buildings in Seattle meet the WA State Clean Buildings Performance Standard. The program includes group training sessions combined with one-on-one coaching, and an educational website. In addition to offering energy management and efficiency support, the Accelerator program provides strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which will help building owners and operators get a jumpstart meeting the upcoming Seattle Building Emissions Performance Standard. Owners and operators of buildings that serve or are in frontline and BIPOC communities and nonprofits are encouraged to join.

Register to attend a one-hour info session to learn more:

- Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 11am: [https://bit.ly/SeattleCleanBuildingsInfo\\_Jan4](https://bit.ly/SeattleCleanBuildingsInfo_Jan4)
- Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 11am: [https://bit.ly/SeattleCleanBuildingsInfo\\_Jan17](https://bit.ly/SeattleCleanBuildingsInfo_Jan17)

Visit the [Accelerator](#) online or email [CleanBuildings@Seattle.gov](mailto:CleanBuildings@Seattle.gov) to learn more.

### Additional Clean Buildings Accelerator Programs

In addition to Puget Sound Energy's and City of Seattle's Building Accelerator programs (see above), other local governments and utilities across Washington offer Clean Buildings Accelerator programs. Please note that not all are free of charge.

- [Bellevue Clean Buildings Incentive Program](#)
- [Issaquah Clean Buildings Incentive Program](#)
- [Snohomish PUD Clean Buildings](#) (Next Cohort begins Mar 2024)
- [Avista Clean Buildings Accelerator](#)
- [Pacific Power Washington Clean Buildings](#)

## ARTICLES

### Energy Savings Guide

Explore tips to optimize winter energy efficiency in buildings with Jack French and Scott Stewart, authors of "[Top 10 Ways to Maximize Energy Efficiency in Winter: A Comprehensive Guide for Building Managers](#)", appearing December 21, 2023 in *Buildings.com*. The comprehensive guide delves into key strategies that not only cut operational costs but also align with sustainability goals during the colder months. Tips for thermostat adjustments, energy-efficient lighting, and more promise to make your building greener and more resilient. Strategic investments can ensure both savings and a lasting impact on a building's systems.

### Rethinking Pumps

Gain insights into unlocking the potential of HVAC systems with Eric Reinhard, in the article "[Rethinking Pump Maintenance and Design](#)," appearing December 18, 2023 in *Facilitiesnet.com*. Reinhard sheds light on the often-overlooked role of pumps in enhancing HVAC performance. Explore the trouble spots of centrifugal pumps, addressing issues like seal failures, bearing problems, and the

detrimental effects of a working fluid being pushed beyond its boiling point, causing pump damage. The author provides practical solutions, emphasizing the importance of proper pump alignment, regular bearing lubrication, and understanding net positive suction head available (NPSHA). Learn about design considerations, including the impact of impeller size on pump performance. The article also offers a roadmap to ensure pumps operate efficiently and reliably in your facility.

### Seattle's Building Performance Standard

Discover the future of sustainable urban planning in "[Seattle Requires Large Buildings to Zero Out Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050](#)" by Ysabelle Kempe, appearing December 13, 2023 in *Smartcitiesdive.com*. Unanimously passed by the Seattle City Council, new landmark building performance standards legislation mandates large buildings to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, making it a game-changer in the city's effort to cut core emissions by 10%. Applying to structures over 20,000 square feet, the policy reflects a growing trend in cities adopting building performance standards for environmental responsibility. With implications for approximately 3% of Seattle's buildings, learn how this initiative addresses 37% of the city's overall emissions. The article highlights details on performance benchmarks, compliance fines, and support for building owners.

### Smart Building Trends

The author Greg Zimmerman, in "[4 Trends in Smart Buildings](#)", published December 20, 2023 in *Facilitiesnet.com*. predicts a time when the term "smart buildings" becomes redundant, envisioning a standard where smart technology seamlessly integrates into all facets of building operations. Smart building technologies allow real-time monitoring to harness continuous data for optimal efficiency, system health, and strategic communication with utilities. Occupancy-based controls can adapt to dynamic workspaces and provide substantial energy savings. Lastly, the concept of digital twins offers a holistic model for streamlined decision-making, simulation capabilities, and even virtual reality integration.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jan 4
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jan 9
- ENERGY STAR Resources for Camps and Retreats – Jan 16
- How to Apply for ENERGY STAR Certification – Jan 18
- ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager Training for Vehicle Dealerships – Jan 23
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jan 25
- Verifying ENERGY STAR Certification – Jan 30
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

## Better Buildings Webinar Series

All online webinars

- Winter Heat Pump Reality Check: Is Yours Keeping Up? – Jan 9
- The (Not So) Shocking Shift Towards Industrial Electrification – Jan 23
- Embracing Circularity: Transforming Recycling Through Partnership and Innovation – Jan 25
- 3-2-1 Action: Transforming Climate Plans into Action – Jan 30
- Charging Ahead: Accelerating Electric Vehicle Adoption – Jan 31
- From Workplace to Living Space: Converting Commercial Buildings to Multifamily Homes – Feb 1
- The New Cool: The Transition to Low-GWP and Natural Refrigerants – Feb 6
- Tracking and Tackling: Reducing Commercial Tenant and Scope 3 Emissions – Feb 13
- Illuminating Impact: Integrated Lighting Campaign Gives Back to the Community – Feb 27

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings*

## IFMA Webinars

Free online event

- Quick Start Guide to Using Building Information Modeling (BIM) in FM – Jan 16
- FM Trends to Watch: From Preventive to Predictive Maintenance – Jan 24

[Click here for more information](#)

*IFMA*

## Pump & Systems Fundamentals Course

Virtual live instructor-led course is designed to teach the fundamentals of pump and system design, including system hydraulics and calculations, pump and system curves, system components, factors affecting reliability, and energy consumption and control.

- Part 1 – Jan 16
- Part 2 – Jan 17

[Click here for more information](#)

*Hydraulic Institute and Pump Systems Matter*

## Illuminating Engineering Society Webinars

- The IES-ANSI Process and 2023-4 Standards Update – Jan 18

[Click here for more information](#)

*Illuminating Engineering Society, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

## Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Residential Load Calculation Fundamentals and Insights (Manual J) and Equipment Selection (Manual S) – Jan 18

[Click here for more information](#)

*Lighting Design Lab*

## Energy Management Trainings and Certifications

- Premier Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Training Program – Jan 22-26
- Accelerated Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Online Training Program – Jan 29-Feb 2
- Certified Measurement & Verification Professional (CMVP®) Training Program – Jan 29-31

[Click here for more information](#)

*The Association of Energy Engineers*

## Energy Insights Forum

Panel discussion on how to reduce demand-side energy usage, including practicalities of reducing building energy usage and a networking break.

- Jan 30 at the Smart Buildings Center in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

*Seattle and Bellevue 2030 Districts, Building Potential (formerly Northwest Energy Efficiency Council)*

## Smart Buildings Center Webinars

- Exploring the Versatile Applications of Building Automation Systems (BAS) – Feb 21
- Refrigerants' Role in the Decarbonization Movement – Mar 20
- Driving Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure – Apr 17

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center*

## 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 class
    - March 27 – August 15, 2024 for Washington residents via Zoom
    - Summer 2024, dates TBA, via Zoom
    - Sept 25, 2024 – Jan 23, 2025 in Seattle
  - Level II class
    - Oct 2, 2024 – Jan 30, 2025 in Seattle, for Oregon and Washington residents

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

- Oregon
  - Level I class
    - Jan 4 to Jul 11, 2024 via Zoom
  - Level II class will not run this year. Enroll with Washington Partners

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

*Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute*

### ASHRAE Winter Conference and AHR Expo

This year's winter conference will focus on decarbonization, climate change, artificial intelligence, refrigeration and refrigerants, and more.

- Jan 20-24 in Chicago, IL

[Click here for more information](#)

### National Facilities Management and Technology Conference and Expo

- Mar 12-14, 2024 in Baltimore, MD

[Click here for more information](#)

*National Facilities Management & Technology*

### WAMOA Leadership Seminar

- Mar 21-22, 2024 in Leavenworth, WA

[Click here for more information](#)

*Washington Association of Maintenance and Operation Administrators*

### Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

- Apr 2 to Apr 4, 2024 in Washington, D.C.

[Click here for more information](#)

*U.S. Department of Energy, Better Buildings*

### Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- May 21-23, 2024 in Charlotte, NC

[Click here for more information](#)

*New Buildings Institute*

### Roadmap Conference – Save the Date

Electric transportation conference

- Sep 24-26, 2024, 2024 in Detroit

[Click here for more information](#)

*Forth*

## RESOURCES

### Clean Buildings Performance Standard Document Library

Guidance documents, fact sheets, flowcharts, technical documents, compliance forms, and reporting tools to facilitate accurate interpretation of the Clean Buildings Performance Standard published by

the Clean Buildings Team at the Department of Commerce are available at [Clean Building Performance Standard Document Library](#) page.

### Helpdesks

The Smart Buildings Center (SBC) offers technical support with two helpdesks. Resources, guidance, training, and technical assistance are provided through a [K-12 Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality Helpdesk](#), funded by the Washington State Department of Commerce, to help improve the indoor environment in our schools. The [Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk](#) is a utility-sponsored helpdesk providing technical assistance, resources, and trainings to assist building owners in reaching compliance with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard.

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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.

### 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)

