

RCM NEWS

RCM Survey coming your way!

We want to hear how the WSU RCM Program can work more effectively for you.

Please watch your email for the survey link.

Thank you!

RCM News for January 2022

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Building Energy & Controls Apprenticeship Program

Lane Community College's Energy Management-Building Controls degree program now offers an apprenticeship opportunity providing 2000 hours of paid on-the-job training. The [Building Energy & Controls Apprenticeship Program](#), a partnership of Lane Community College and the University of Oregon Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory, will provide program enrollees the opportunity to get on-the-ground experience with building controls at high-performance buildings, in preparation for future employment.

State Project Improvement Grants

Applications for [State Project Improvement](#) funding from the Washington State Department of Commerce are being accepted on a continual basis until all funds have been awarded. These grants cover the additional costs to increase the efficiency of projects at existing state-owned buildings.

ARTICLES

Building System Interfaces

Interfaces that control building systems, such as light switches and thermostats, are an important link between the people who use them and buildings. Yet using the interface may not result in the expected outcome. “[How Building Interfaces Affect Occupant Experience](#)”, by William O’Brien, Julia Day, and Connor Brackley, published in the January 2021 *ASHRAE Journal*, delves into the causes and possible solutions of this issue.

HVAC Mitigation Strategies

Russell Lavitt, in “[4 HVAC Strategies to Still Protect Against COVID-19](#)”, published in the January 2022 issue of *Building Operating Management*, summarizes important information from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) about mitigating transmission of the COVID-19 virus and its variants. Dilution, filtration, occupant-based solutions, and portable filtration units appear to be effective approaches to minimize transmission.

Water Efficient Restrooms

As people begin returning to offices and schools, consider improvements to restrooms for health, wellness, and safety concerns, as well as reducing water use which in turn reduces energy consumption. “[How to Create Sustainable, Water Efficient Restrooms](#)”, written by Elizabeth Thompson in the January 2022 issue of *Building Operating Management*, discusses where to find criterion for product and design selection, and the importance of implementing a water use monitoring, education, and replacement plan.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

ASHRAE 2022 Winter Conference and AHR Expo

There is still time to attend virtually. The winter conference offers many sessions such as occupant behavior and occupancy schedules, and control systems for net-zero energy buildings, as well as intermediate and advanced sessions.

- Jan 29 – Feb 2

[Click here for more information](#)

ASHRAE

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Feb 1
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Feb 3
- Setting Performance Goals in Portfolio Manager – Feb 9
- Using Benchmarking Results to Understand your Building’s Performance – Feb 10
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Feb 17
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 2 – Feb 1
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 3 – Feb 8
- Commercial HPWH: Design, Operations & Maintenance Deep Dive Part 4 – Feb 15
- Intro to Central Systems for Heat Pump Water Heating Part 1 – March 1
- Intro to Central Systems for Heat Pump Water Heating Part 2 – March 9

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

Lighting Design Lab

Better Buildings Webinars

- PV Valuation: How Solar PV Adds Value to Your Assets – Feb 1
- How Schools and Educational Facilities Can Benefit from DOE Technology Campaigns – Feb 2
- Integrated Lighting Campaign – Opportunities for Supporters – Feb 9
- Work Smarter, Not Harder: Creative Project and Process Implementation – March 1

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

Basics of Building Benchmarking for Ordinance Compliance

A repeat of the three-part webinar series. Part 1 was aired January 25.

- Using Benchmarking Results to Understand your Building's Performance – Feb 10
- To Efficiency & Beyond! How to Benefit from Benchmarking Compliance with Strategies for Improving Energy – March 10

[Click here to register](#)

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Building Electrification & Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings

An Executive Forum from Smart Buildings Center. Part 1 features policy, regulatory, ratemaking, and utility experts. Part 2 features a panel of building owners, managers, developers, service providers, and research institutions.

- Part 1 – Feb 17
- Part 2 – Feb 24

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center

BOC Technical Webinars

- Old Habits Die Hard: Reinventing Your IEQ Strategy – Feb 23
- Benchmarking Simplified: Using Tools & Techniques to Meet Energy Performance Standards – March 23
- It's Electric: The Impact of Electrification on Building Operations – April 20

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

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
 - April 19 to Sept 14, 2022 for Washington residents – online
 - Fall 2022 for Washington residents – location/delivery TBD
 - Level II classes
 - Fall 2022 for Washington residents – location/delivery TBD

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

- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - March 3, 2022 through Sept 1, 2022 online

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Power Facility Energy Conference

Annual conference that offers practical energy solutions and opportunities to gain knowledge, connections, and success regarding energy efficiency projects.

- March 17 in Lynnwood WA

[Click here for more information](#)

Electric League of the Pacific Northwest

Efficiency Exchange 2022 Conference

- April 14-15 – virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

WSSHE Spring Symposium

Washington State Society for Healthcare Engineering symposium for health care facility management/line staff, architects, engineers, and contractors

- April 19-22 in Chelan

[Click here for more information](#)

WSSHE

Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. The course is designed for existing Washington State staff wanting a solid foundational understanding of energy efficiency or for those looking for a new career.

- 6 half-day classes from May 17 through June 23 – online

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

- May 17-19

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

RESOURCES

Cooling Tower Efficiency

Refresh your knowledge about cooling towers and how to improve their efficiency. The [Saving Water Partnership](#) produced a cooling tower efficiency manual called the [Cool Tunes Manual](#) in 2010 and 2011. Information in the manual includes how a cooling tower works, types of cooling towers, water losses, water quality, and how to improve and maintain your system. Checklists are also included.

Energy Modeling Tool Webinars

Free on-demand webinars from EPA ENERGY STAR provide information and details on using two tools to set energy targets, model energy use, and evaluate various energy measure scenarios during the design stage of new commercial buildings. The free on-demand webinars both examine ENERGY STAR's Target Finder and Slipstream's Sketchbox, with [one webinar](#) focusing on the building owner's perspective, and the [other webinar](#) exploring the design team's use of the tools.

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

