

RCM News for July 2022

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Council (NEEC) and the Smart Buildings Center (SBC) are offering a Clean Buildings Performance Standard Helpdesk. The utility* sponsored service is providing technical assistance and coaching during office hours via phone, zoom/teams, and email. In addition, a resource webpage including training videos, FAQs, and other resources regarding the Standard is available. The webpage and the helpdesk information can be found at

<https://www.smartbuildingscenter.org/resources/clean-buildings-performance-standard/>.

*Sponsoring utilities are Clark Public Utilities, Puget Sound Energy, Seattle City Light, Snohomish County PUD and Tacoma Power.

Incentives for RCMs and Energy Managers

If you are an RCM or energy manager in Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) public power utility territory, you may be eligible for certain incentives. BPA has three options that incentivize energy management in commercial and industrial facilities: Energy Project Manager (EPM), Strategic Energy Management (SEM), and Performance Tracking Systems (PTS). Talk with your public utility representative for more information. More detail can be found in sections 10.3.1 through 10.3.3 in the BPA 2022-2023 Implementation Manual ([2022-RATE-PERIOD-IM.pdf \(bpa.gov\)](#)).

Early Adopter Incentive Program Funding

Funding is still available for eligible building owners who demonstrate early compliance with Washington state's Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Visit the [Washington State Department of Commerce's Clean Buildings website](#) for information on qualifications and how to apply.

ARTICLES

CO₂ Calculation Tool

A free online tool, developed by researchers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), calculates target indoor carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels, given information about the building and occupants. An appropriate CO₂ level is important for adequate ventilation and indoor air quality. "[NIST's Indoor CO₂ Tool Can Help Assess Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality](#)" published on the NIST News website on July 19, 2022, discusses the tool, [Quick Indoor CO₂ \(QICO₂\) Tool](#). NIST Fellow Andrew Persily first described the tool and method in a journal article in *Indoor Air*.

Electronically Commutated Motors

Electronically Commutated Motors (ECMs) in circulator pumps can provide significant energy savings. In "[Adoption of Electronically Commutated Motor Pumps Increases as Energy Savings Add Up](#)", published in the June 2022 *Building Operating Management* magazine, the author Michael Michaud discusses how ECM pumps work, and their increased efficiency over permanent split capacitor (PSC) motors. The Energy Rating label, developed by the Hydraulic Institute, is a new rating system that compares ECM and PSC pumps or two competitive models, and also can show savings based on using a pump in different efficiency modes.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

NOTE: The next Portfolio Manager 101, 201, and 301 trainings will be in September. All are online webinars.

- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

Better Building Webinars

- The First Principle of Sustainability: Use Less! – Aug 9

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

U.S. DOE Better Buildings

Smart Buildings Exchange

Sessions include "Making Existing Buildings Smarter", "Building System Interoperability", "Data Analytics – Making Smart Actionable", and "Building Performance Reporting – How Smart Technology Can Help". Aug 22 and 23 are fully virtual; Aug 24 has one in-person and virtual session.

- Aug 22-24 – mostly virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center

Fundamentals of Energy Efficient Building Operations

BOC course providing the basic principles of energy efficiency awareness and practices in commercial buildings. Six half-day classes.

- Sept 20 through Oct 20, 2022 via Zoom

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Smart Building Center Technical Webinars

- What's Next for Building Controls? The Evolution of Wireless Technology – Sep 21
- Occupancy & Ventilation: Finding the Balance Between Safety & Efficiency – Oct 19

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Building Operators Certification for Multifamily

BOC Level I Multifamily training helps staff advance skills and career in energy efficient operations of multifamily facilities

- Classes run from Sep 21, 2022 through Mar 9, 2023

[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
 - Sept 28, 2022 to Apr 6, 2023 for Washington residents via Zoom
 - Level II classes
 - Oct 26, 2022 to Mar 30, 2023 for Washington residents via Zoom

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

- Oregon
 - Level I class
 - Oct 6, 2022 to Apr 13, 2023 virtual
 - Level II will be available in 2023

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- May 10-12, 2023 in Minneapolis + virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

RESOURCES

Ultraviolet light is sometimes used to disinfect the air stream in HVAC systems, but there are questions as to their efficiency and how they compare to other types of technologies. Public utility staff recommended to RCM News a webinar which addresses these questions and explains how UV disinfecting works. The webinar, *UVDI - Fact vs. Fiction: Clarifying Myths Regarding UV Indoor Air Quality Technology*, can be found on the [Supplier Webinars](#)* page of the ASHRAE website.

*Please note that RCM News does not promote supplier products.

Decarbonizing School Buildings

View [presentations from the 2022 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit](#), which took place May 17-19, 2022. These can be filtered by sector, topic, and partner. A few of the many presentations include “Communicating with Your Buildings Occupants”, “Decarbonization Finance 101”, “Lessons Learned from Water Savings Projects”, and “Controls and Analytics for Small Buildings”.

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

