

RCM NEWS

RCM News for March 2021

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

Webinars on Clean Buildings Standards O&M

WSU Energy Program is offering a series of four webinars focusing on Operations & Maintenance and Energy Management Plans in relation to the Washington State Clean Buildings Standards. These are geared toward RCMs and energy managers, but are open to all. Webinar 2 is on April 21. See dates and registration links under “Events & Training Opportunities” below.

Tool Lending Available

Energy Trust of Oregon is partnering with the Smart Buildings Center to make the [Tool Lending Library](#) available to commercial and industrial building owners and managers in Oregon. The program is already offered to those in Washington State. The Tool Lending Library offers 85 different types of tools to loan, including data loggers, power meters, lighting loggers, infrared cameras and more. Users can borrow tools at no-cost with shipping covered by the Energy Trust. [Tool Lending Library Helps Oregon Facilities Evaluate Building Performance](#) on the Smart Buildings Center website provides more information about this new service.

Controls Apprenticeship Program

The [Washington State Controls Specialist Apprenticeship Program](#) helps participants develop skills in the application, programming, and management of building control and automation systems. Two

Washington state registered apprenticeship programs, one of which is for youth age 16 and older, provide on-the-job training in an industry that is facing a shortage of skilled employees. Please share this information, especially at school districts.

ARTICLES

Measuring CO2 for IAQ

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) can impact the comfort, health, well-being, productivity, and cognitive ability of building occupants. While there are many ways to test and measure IAQ, measuring CO2 levels continues to be the most reliable method. Using CO2 sensors in a building can determine how well a ventilation system is functioning over the long term and in a cost-effective way. [CO2 Measurement Contributes to Better IAQ](#) by Justin Walsh in *Facility Executive* on March 22, 2021, highlights how measuring CO2 can help find ways to improve the indoor air quality in today's buildings.

Recycling

During the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns, the focus on sustainability and recycling decreased for many commercial facilities. As buildings begin to open up, it is the perfect time to examine recycling plans and make improvements. [Revitalize Your Recycling Program with 3 Key Steps](#) from *Buildings* on March 2, 2021, written by Rain Vaught Apperson, offers three key steps to take to get your recycling program back on track. The article discusses the importance of a good plan for the accessibility of waste disposal enclosures, addressing illegal dumping, and educating occupants on the ways to recycle responsibly.

Roof Replacement

The high cost of maintaining a building's roof makes it important to consider long term durability and annual maintenance cost when planning a new roof replacement, but selecting roof materials can also help improve the well-being of building occupants as well as the sustainability of the building. A series of articles by John D'Annunzio in the March 2021 issue of *Building Operating Management* discusses using roofs for employee recreation and selecting roofs that can integrate with other building systems to increase sustainability.

Part 1 – [How to Add Value on Your Next Roofing Project](#)

Part 2 – [Roofing That Enhances Employee Health and Wellness](#)

Part 3 – [How Roofing Complements Whole-Building Sustainability](#)

Smart Outlets

[Smart Outlets: Wireless Meter and Control Systems for Plug and Process Loads](#), an article from the *National Renewable Energy Laboratory* (NREL), describes how smart outlets work and how they can be used effectively to improve energy efficiency in a building. Smart outlets can control the flow of power to devices that are plugged into them and also collect data on energy usage that can help analyze plug and process loads. Before deciding to use smart outlets, the article suggests examining the building's needs and goals to determine if smart outlets are a good choice. First steps to take include assessing the plug and process inventory, creating a classification strategy and a control strategy before making the leap to purchase smart outlets.

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- Networked Lighting Controls for Warehouses – April 6
- Networked Lighting Controls for Healthcare – April 20
- Networked Lighting Controls for Schools – May 4

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

Lighting Design Lab

GoGreen Conference

A regional conference offering educational opportunities on sustainability for business and public sector leaders.

- April 6 – virtually

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington Business Alliance

Better Buildings Webinars

- How to Make Your Data Center Better – Stories from the Field – April 6

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE Better Buildings

Federal Energy Management Program Courses

- ESPC Comprehensive Training – April 6-8
- Evaluating Your Utility Rate Options – April 13

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE, FEMP

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – April 7
- Portfolio Manager 201 – April 14
- Portfolio Manager 301 – April 20
- Controlling Water Waste Across Commercial and Industrial Properties Everywhere – April 20
- A Beginner's Guide to Using Portfolio Manager for Benchmarking Law Compliance – April 21
- Benchmarking Wastewater Treatment Plants and Drinking Water Treatment Systems – June 9
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – June 16
- Ask the Expert – Most Wednesday at 9:00 AM Pacific time

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

US EPA ENERGY STAR

eProject Builder Introductory Webinars

eProject Builder is a web-based data management platform to preserve, track, and report information for energy projects.

- Webinar – April 8 & 27, May 13 & 25

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Clean Buildings Live Q&A Session

Get your questions answered about the Washington State Clean Buildings Performance Standard at this live Q&A session. Questions submitted more than 24 hours in advance have priority.

- April 13

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington State Department of Commerce

Retro-commissioning Webinar

The second in a two part webinar series discussing retro-commissioning, the opportunities, and how to overcome challenges.

- Webinar – April 18

[Click here for more information](#)

Oregon Association of Professional Energy Managers

Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP) Training

The DCEP training program certifies energy practitioners qualified to evaluate the energy status and efficiency opportunities in data centers. Course curriculum teaches proven best practices as well as new tools and techniques in IT equipment, air management, cooling systems, and electrical systems.

February trainings are listed below. Click on the link to see March trainings.

- Data Center: Generalist – April 19
- Data Center: HVAC Specialist – April 21-22
- Data Center: Generalist & HVAC Specialist – April 19, 21-22
- Data Center: IT Specialist – April 26

[Click here for more information](#)

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, FEMP

Smart Building Center Technical Webinar Series

- Achieving Water, Energy and Cost Savings Through Conservation – April 28
- Innovation in Building Envelope and Window Technologies – May 26

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center

Getting to Zero Webinar Series

A webinar series to share knowledge on achieving the highest level of efficiency in buildings.

- Getting to Zero: Grid-Integrated Buildings – April 29

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

O&M for Clean Buildings and Beyond

A series of webinars focusing on operations & maintenance and energy management plans for the Clean Buildings Standards, as well as a brief overview of the Standards, tune-ups, and more.

[Click here for recording and slides of the March 30 webinar](#) (available April 2).

- Tune-ups for Clean Buildings – April 21
- Energy Management Plans for Clean Buildings – May 19
- Operations & Maintenance for Clean Buildings – June 9

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington State University Energy Program

Clean Buildings – Equity and Inclusive Incentive Reservation Webinar

Discussion about issues of equity and access for the limited pool of incentive money in the Early Adopter Incentive Program for the Washington Energy Performance Standards for Commercial Buildings.

- April 28

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington State Department of Commerce

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.

Contact BOC directly for information about cancellations.

All dates below are for the first class.

- Washington State
 - Level I classes
 - Virtual – May 4, 2021 through September 15, 2021
 - Location/delivery TBD – Fall 2021
 - Level II classes
 - Virtual – date TBD Spring 2021
 - Location/delivery TBD – Fall 2021

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

- Oregon
 - Level I classes
 - Virtual – Aug 5, 2021 through March 3, 2022
 - Level II classes
 - Virtual – July 6 through Dec 7, 2021

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification

Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

This event provides opportunities to explore emerging technologies and share innovative strategies in energy and water efficiency.

- May 17-20, 2021

[Click here for more information](#)

US Dept of Energy Better Buildings

Efficiency Exchange

A networking and learning conference for energy efficiency professionals from across the Northwest.

- May 25-27 – virtual

[Click here for more information](#)

NEEA, Bonneville Power Administration

Green Transportation Summit & Expo

The 10th annual summit: “Reflecting & Refocusing on a Resilient Future”.

- Aug 16-18, 2021 – Tacoma, WA

[Click here for more information](#)

Green Transportation

Smart Buildings Exchange Conference

Two-day conference and trade show with the latest information and technologies in the smart buildings industry, showcasing smart city and building projects and initiatives in the Pacific Northwest.

- Aug 24-25, 2021 – Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Smart Buildings Center, NEEC

Northwest Facilities Expo

A broad based facilities event with an emphasis on green buildings that features the latest products and services in the industry.

- September 1-2, 2021 – Portland, OR

[Click here for more information](#)

NW Facilities Expo

2021 Getting to Zero Forum 2021

Event offering discussion and education on zero energy and zero carbon buildings.

- Oct 27-29, 2021 – New York City

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

RESOURCES

Clean Buildings Website

Washington State Department of Commerce has updated their [Clean Buildings website](#) to assist building owners and others when complying with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Information on the standards and the Early Adopter Incentive Program, as well as how to comply and resources are now easily available.

Portfolio Manager and Building Benchmarking for Ordinance Compliance

Three webinars on the basics of building benchmarking for ordinance compliance are now available from ENERGY STAR. “Beginner’s Guide to Using Portfolio Manager for Benchmarking Law Compliance”, “Using Benchmarking Results to Understand your Building’s Performance”, and “To Efficiency and Beyond! How to Benefit from Benchmarking Compliance with Strategies for Improving your Energy Performance” are available for on-demand viewing. Access the video-recording by clicking on “View Event Recordings” at the top right of [ENERGY STAR events page](#). Please note that the recording is on Webex and may need an extension added to your browser. For a copy of the PDF of the slides, please contact Karen at janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu.

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

