



## RCM News for May 2023

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

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### HVAC Building Operations and IAQ at Pandemic's "End"

Attend a no-cost webinar, June 7, hosted by WSU Energy Program and the Smart Buildings Center focused on how the end of pandemic emergency rules may effect HVAC building operations and indoor air quality. Hear how an eastern Washington K-12 RCM and King County Metro Transit facility energy manager navigate changes in HVAC operations due to the pandemic. A state Department of Health specialist will discuss inside air quality (IAQ) guidelines, and the intersection of IAQ with energy efficiency will be explored by a state Department of Commerce building performance specialist.

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

#### ASHRAE Publishes First Zero Energy and Zero Carbon Building Standard

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 228-2023, *Standard Method of Evaluating Zero Net Energy and Zero Net Carbon Building Performance*, sets requirements for evaluating whether a building or group of buildings meets a definition of "zero net energy" or a definition of "zero net carbon" during building operation.

[Click here for more information and to purchase.](#)

## ARTICLES

### HVAC Trends

The most recent AHR Expo brought together leaders and manufacturers in the HVAC industry. "[HVAC Trends: What Facility Managers Need to Know](#)" and "[Changes to Come in the HVAC Industry](#)", Dave Lubach's two-part article published in the May issue of *Building Operating Management*, focused on three trends that came up most often in conversations with manufacturers and industry leaders. Those three trends are the electrification of buildings, the transitioning of more environmentally friendly refrigerants, and the availability of federal money for commercial and institutional facilities to upgrade their HVAC systems.

### Lighting Upgrades

Mackenna Moralez's two-part article, "[Pros and Cons of Lighting Upgrades](#)" and "[The Costs Surrounding Lighting Upgrades](#)", published in the May issue of *Building Operating Management*, focuses on the longevity of LED technology, which translates to cost savings from energy efficiency, maintenance and disposal. Some lighting redesigns would require significant expenses, but these could be further offset by other benefits such as utility rebates and safety improvements.

### Net-Zero Energy

HVAC upgrades helped the New Day Preschool become the first net-zero -energy preschool in Oregon. As described in "[It's a New Day for Efficiency and Comfort at Portland Preschool](#)", a BetterBricks case study publication, the system benefits include better indoor air quality, increased occupant comfort, improved occupant productivity and lower energy bills. The key element in the improvement is a very high efficiency dedicated outside air system (very high efficiency DOAS).

### Zero Energy Design and WELL Gold Certified

CMTA Energy Solutions designed and constructed their current headquarters building with three goals in mind: 1) follow the ASHRAE Advanced Energy Design Guide for zero-energy small to medium office buildings, 2) prioritize the health and wellness of the occupants and 3) achieve zero operational carbon. In their article "[Modernizing the Classic: Energy Efficiency Showcased](#)", published in the May 2023 *ASHRAE Journal*, Tracy Steward, Tom Nicolas, and Jonathan Rogers describe the steps taken to achieve those goals. Energy efficiency, indoor air quality and thermal comfort, and innovation are explained in detail.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

### ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jun 1
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jun 6
- Pt. 3: To Efficiency & Beyond! How to Benefit from Benchmarking Compliance with Strategies for Improving Energy – Jun 8

- How to apply for ENERGY STAR Certification – Jun 13
- Verifying ENERGY STAR Certification – Jun 20
- Achieving Water and Cost Savings in Capital Improvement Projects – Jun 21
- Energy Benchmarking Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants in Portfolio Manager – Jun 22
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – Jun 27
- Tracking Healthcare Sector Building Emissions – Jun 28
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

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

*U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR*

### 2021 Energy Code Update Series

- Alterations – Jun 6
- Lighting & Electric – Jun 13

[Click here for more information](#)

*Lighting Design Lab*

### Better Buildings Webinars

All online webinars

- 2023 Better Buildings Summit Sampler – Jun 6
- GHG Emissions Reduction Audits: Taking Energy Audits to the Next Level – Jun 7
- Paying the Price: How Internal Carbon Pricing Supports Emissions Reduction – Jun 22
- Understanding Real-World Energy Use, Management Strategies and Technologies for Plug Loads and Beyond – Jun 22
- Identifying Cost-Effective Energy Efficiency and Load Flexibility Measures Supporting Grid-Interactive Efficient Building Strategies – Jul 17

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings*

### HVAC Building Operations and IAQ at Pandemic's "End"

A WSU Energy Program RCM and Smart Buildings Center webinar

- Jun 7 online

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

*WSU Energy Program, Smart Buildings Center*

### Clean Buildings

Emergency Rule workshops

- Energy Management Plan and the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Program – Jun 15
- Tier 2 Incentive Program, administrative rules and reporting requirements, and Tier 1 amendments – Jul 13
- Cumulative Review – Aug 24

[Click here for more information](#)

*WA State Department of Commerce*

## BCxA Events

Air Aware: Commissioning for Optimal Indoor Air Quality

- Jun 19 Online

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Commissioning Association*

## BOMA 2023

International Conference and Expo

Jun 24 to Jun 27 in Kansas City, MO

[Click here for more information](#)

*Building Owners and Managers Association*

## Smart Buildings Exchange

A three day hybrid conference connecting participants to the latest information and technologies in the smart buildings industry.

- Aug 15- 17, 2023 in Seattle + virtual

[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 State
  - 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
    - June 1, 2023 to Dec 1, 2023 via Zoom

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

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

## National 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 19 through Oct 25, 2023 via Zoom – [register here](#)

*Building Operators Certification*

## 2023 Decarbonization Conference for the Built Environment

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

[Click here for more information](#)

ASHRAE

## RESOURCES

### Better Buildings Solution Center

Presentations from the recent 2023 Better Buildings Summit are now available on the [Better Buildings Solutions Center](#) website. Two presentations that may be of particular interest are:

- [Every Breath You Take: Indoor Air Quality and Energy Efficiency](#)
- [Not Just a Drop in the Bucket: Prioritizing Water Efficiency](#)

Recently added to the Solutions Center is the "[Funding and Incentives Resource Hub](#)", to help you navigate and discover rebates, funding opportunities, and other incentives including those available through the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

### Clean Buildings Performance Standard Document Library

The Clean Buildings Performance Standard (CBPS) now has a webpage listing guides, flowcharts, and tools to facilitate accurate interpretation of the CBPS. These documents are now available on the [Clean Building Performance Standard Document Library](#) page.

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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.

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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](mailto:janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu)

