



## RCM News for November 2023

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

**WE WISH YOU A HEALTHY AND ENERGY EFFICIENT HOLIDAY SEASON AND NEW YEAR!**

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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.*

### JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Energy Program Coordinator

The Washington State University (WSU) Energy Program has an opening for a full-time, high-level leadership position for its Green Transportation Program, which helps fleets and communities adopt zero-emission vehicles and build a carbon-free economy. The successful applicant will provide direct education and technical assistance to public fleets on the use of alternative fuels, produce educational materials and website content, host meetings and events, and more. Energy Program staff have the option to work remotely with occasional in-person meetings in Olympia or elsewhere in the state.

Please note: WSU lists all similar positions as temporary. However, there is multi-year funding for this position, and most WSU Energy Program employees have been temporary throughout their careers.

[Click here for position announcement.](#)

Position closes December 5, 2023 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Give Your Building a Holiday, Too!

Remember on Christmas and New Year's, your building needs a holiday too. Check to make sure your building management system is on holiday schedule: set back thermostats, turn off unnecessary lights, remind occupants to turn off office equipment, check time-of-use controllers on water heaters to insure the water heater is set to turn off at closing time and on at opening, and turn off the water heating system's circulation pump.

### Clean Buildings Upcoming Events

In conjunction with expanding the Clean Buildings Performance Standard expansion (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](#) (SmartSheet) to receive notice. More information about the expansion of the clean buildings standard and public hearings can be found [here](#).

### Puget Sound Energy Clean Buildings Accelerator

Commercial building owners, or their partners, in the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) territory can sign up for [PSE's Clean Buildings Accelerator program](#) for guidance, tailored coaching, and more in order to comply with Washington's Clean Buildings Law. Register for a virtual orientation December 12; or, enroll in an upcoming Accelerator program. Upcoming Accelerator kickoff dates are January 23, 2024.

### Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator

Seattle's Clean Building Accelerator, implemented by Stillwater Energy, provides free support to all building owners and is focused on BIPOC, nonprofits, and owners of buildings that serve or are in frontline communities. Watch this [recording](#) of a recent session to learn more about the program. Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator offers two pathway's for training:

- Education: Self-led learning via the Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator's educational website
- Light Coaching & Training: Tailored hands-on support via a cohort

[Click here for more information and information on enrollment](#)

### 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

### Air Quality

Due to worsening air quality from wildfires as well as viral loads, various national and regional regulations are taking a closer look at MERV filtration, among other measures. In the article titled "[Navigating the Coming Indoor Air Quality Revolution in Buildings](#)" published in the Resiliency and Sustainability section of *Buildings.com*, the author Marshal Sterio explores legislative actions, the introduction of Standard 241 airborne infection risk mitigation for buildings by ASHRAE, and provides crucial insights on evaluating air filtration devices. Sterio's comprehensive piece anticipates and navigates the evolving landscape of indoor air quality.

### Building Systems

"[Energy Management Information Systems \(EMIS\)](#)," by Nicole Imeson, featured in the *Building Commissioning Association*, focuses on the role of an EMIS in monitoring, controlling, and optimizing energy usage in buildings. Distinguishing itself from building automation systems, an EMIS provides insights for informed decision-making by operation's teams. Highlighting the importance of engagement for EMIS success, the article stresses simplicity in the process and collaboration with operations teams. The functionality of EMIS is explored, with considerations for building types and the potential return on investment (ROI). Imeson presents well founded explanations of how EMIS systems can provide feedback communications loop between operations and construction teams for data analysis.

### Heat Pump Challenges

In Nish Amarnath's article from *Utility Dive*, "[Heat Pumps Are Hot, but Commercial Retrofits Face Cold Realities](#)," challenging viewpoints are presented regarding infrastructure around heat pump installations. While government incentives and the efficiency of heat pumps make them a cost-effective choice for residential spaces, the commercial sector encounters challenges, both physical and financial, associated with retrofitting commercial buildings with heat pumps. Highlighting the need for strategic planning, it explores the complexities of dismantling existing HVAC systems, including piping and distribution networks, to make way for heat pump systems.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

### Smart Buildings Center Webinars

- Creative Funding Strategies for Better Buildings – Dec 4

[Click here for more information](#)

*Smart Buildings Center*

## Better Buildings Webinar Series

All online webinars

- Turning Insights into Action: Bridging Building Data Analytics and Work Order Systems – Dec 5
- From Workplace to Living Space: Converting Commercial Buildings to Multifamily Homes – Dec 14
- Storing and Saving: Using Thermal Energy Storage in Commercial Buildings – Dec 19
- Winter Heat Pump Reality Check: Is Yours Keeping Up? – Jan 9
- 3-2-1 Action: Transforming Climate Plans into Action – Jan 30

[Click here for more information](#)

*US DOE Better Buildings*

## ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- Portfolio Manager 101 – Dec 5
- Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign – Dec 5
- Effective Submetering Strategies for Commercial Properties – Dec 6
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Dec 12
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Dec 19
- Energy Benchmarking Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants in Portfolio Manager – Dec 21
- Portfolio Manager 101 – Jan 4
- Portfolio Manager 201 – Jan 9
- How to Apply for ENERGY STAR Certification – Jan 18
- Portfolio Manager 301 – Jan 31
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

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

*U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR*

## Energy Management Trainings and Certifications

- Certified Building Commissioning Professional (CBCP®) Training Program – Dec 4-7
- Certified Business Energy Professional (BEP®) Training Program – Dec 4-8
- Premier Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Training Program – Dec 4-8
- Energy Auditing Fundamentals Online Training Program – Dec 6-8
- Certified Water Efficiency Professional (CWEP™) Training Program – Dec 11-12
- Certified Measurement & Verification Professional (CMVP®) Training Program – Dec 11-13
- Accelerated Certified Energy Manager (CEM®) Online Training Program – Dec 11-15
- Project Management for Energy Engineers and Energy Managers Online Training Program – Dec 14-15
- Energy Efficiency Practitioner (EEP™) Training Program – Dec 18-19

[Click here for more information](#)

*The Association of Energy Engineers*

## IFMA Webinars

Free online event

- Shaping the Future of Work: AI-Driven Space Management in the Age of the Augmented Workforce – Dec 6
- Global Trends in Facility Management – Dec 7
- Using Drones to Inspect Roofs and Buildings – Don't Break a leg! – Dec 19
- Quick Start Guide to Using Building Information Modeling (BIM) in FM – Jan 16

[Click here for more information](#)

*IFMA*

## Lighting Design Lab Webinars

Free online classes

- C-PACER – Financing for Building Electrification, GHG Reduction, and Resiliency Improvements – Dec 7

[Click here for more information](#)

*Lighting Design Lab*

## Illuminating Engineering Society Webinars

- Hospitality Lighting: ANSI/IES RP-9 Leading the Way beyond Calculations – Dec 14

[Click here for more information](#)

*Illuminating Engineering Society, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

## BCxA

Webinars

- The Art and Science of Building Enclosure Design Reviews – Dec 11

[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
  - Level I class
    - March 27 – August 15, 2024 for Washington residents via Zoom
    - Summer 2024, dates TBA, via Zoom
    - Fall 2024, dates TBA, in Seattle
  - Level II class
    - Fall 2024, dates TBA, 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  
[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)
  - Level II class will not run this year. Enroll with Washington Partners  
*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 – Save the Date

- 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

### Better Buildings Initiative

The [Better Buildings Water Savings Network](#), part of the DOE's Better Buildings Initiative, focuses on prioritizing water efficiency, especially in regions facing water stress due to climate change. This resource brings together organizations to discuss and demonstrate successful approaches for conserving water in buildings, plants, and multifamily housing. Facility owners and managers are encouraged to join and benefit from the progress made by Better Buildings Challenge partners, who have collectively reduced water use by over 10 billion gallons since 2015. The initiative aims to save money, energy, and enhance resilience through efficient water use.

### Clean Buildings Training Videos

New [training videos](#) are available on the WA State Department of Commerce Clean Buildings Support and Resources webpage. Recently completed videos will help you determine your building's energy-use intensity target and answer questions about compliance paths. View these as an aid to help you meet your Clean Buildings Performance Standard requirements.

### Decarbonization, Emerging Technologies, and Workforce Development

View [agenda](#) and [presentations from the 2023 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit](#), which took place April 11-13, 2023. These can be filtered by sector, topic, and partner. A few of the many presentations include "Risky Business: Adopting New Technologies with Confidence", "Using Energy Management systems to Organize and Drive Decarbonization", and "Streamlining Green Building Career Pathways: Best Practices for Trainers and Employers".

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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)

