



RCM News for October 2024

A Newsletter for Resource Conservation Managers in the Northwest

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JOB OPPORTUNITY

Job Opportunities at NEEA: Sr. Program Manager- Whole Building Efficiency, Sr. Product Segment Manager, Whole Building Efficiency

Northwest Energy Efficiency Association (NEEA) is hiring a Senior Program Manager and Senior Product Segment Manager for Commercial Whole Building Efficiency as part of a larger Commercial Whole Building Efficiency effort. The Sr. Program Manager is responsible for program design and implementation, while the Sr. Product Segment Manager will identify and assess market readiness for resource efficient products powered by either electricity and/or natural gas for a wide range of products. Read more about the Senior Program Manager and the Senior Product Manager positions [on the SmartBuildingsCenter website](#) and apply on LinkedIn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clean Buildings Portal Now Requires Digital Signatures for Application Submission

As of mid-October, applications into the Clean Buildings Portal require digital signatures prior to submission. This applies to Early Compliance applications (on Form A – Summary page), Exemption applications (on Form H – *Submit* page), and Early Adopter Incentive Program applications (on the *Submit* page). Contacts must be individuals, and each signatory will require an individual Portal access account with a unique email address. [Click here for more information and detailed instructions.](#)

Clean Buildings News from the Washington State Department of Commerce

Energy Audits for Tier 1 Public Buildings

The Energy Audit Incentive for Public Buildings Program currently offers \$20 million to help cover the costs of the energy audits required for publicly owned buildings to participate in the [Clean Buildings Performance Standard](#) and [Early Adopter Incentive Program](#). Energy Audits can help save energy, comply with the Clean Buildings Performance Standard, or qualify for the Early Adopter Incentive Program.

- The building must be a Tier 1 covered building or a multifamily building over 50,000 sq. ft.
- The building must be publicly owned.
- The audit must be completed by an auditor on the [Verified Energy Auditor Network List](#).

Audits must be completed before June 15, 2025. For more information, visit the [Energy Audit Incentive for Public Buildings Program](#) page or email [Clean Buildings Incentives Program](#).

Tier 2 incentive Program Revised Workshop Series

There are two more meetings scheduled to present program details and answer questions about “Tier 2” buildings for the Clean Buildings program. The program began July 1, 2024. More information on Tier 1 and Tier 2 buildings can be found here.

- [Utilities \(registration\)](#) – Nov 14
- [Finalizing the Program \(registration\)](#) – Dec 12

WA Department of Commerce Clean Buildings Office Hours

A dedicated space outside of scheduled trainings and workshops to ask questions and speak with others learning compliance to the Clean Buildings Standard.

- Nov 26 10:00 AM
- Dec 24 10:00 AM
- Jan 28 10:00 AM
- Feb 25 10:00 AM

[Click here to register](#)

Clean Buildings Accelerator and Incentive Programs

Many utilities and local jurisdictions offer incentive and accelerator programs across Washington state to assist with compliance of the Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Check the program in your territory below for announcements, dates, and other information. Please note that not all are free of charge and the latest programs may not yet be listed.

Accelerator Programs

- [Avista Clean Buildings Accelerator](#)
- [Pacific Power Washington Clean Buildings Homepage](#)
 - [Open House November 12](#)
- [Puget Sound Energy Accelerator Program](#)

- [Seattle Clean Buildings Accelerator Program](#)
- [Snohomish PUD](#)
 - [Register for Coffee Chats on 11/7 and 12/11/24](#)
 - Next Peer Cohort starts in Q1 2025. [Enroll via Email!](#)
- [Tacoma Power](#)

Incentive Programs – Bellevue & Issaquah

The Cities of [Bellevue](#) and [Issaquah](#) are helping large buildings reduce energy use, save on costs and comply with WA State Clean Buildings Law. Free building energy services with assistance from MacDonald-Miller include energy benchmarking, scoping assessments, incentive navigation, and compliance reporting support.

- [Bellevue](#)
- [Issaquah](#)

ARTICLES

Maintaining Healthy Buildings Through Technology and Communication

Advancing interconnected technologies are taking tasks that used to exist either only informally or on paper, such as communicating issues and maintenance tasks, reporting issues, or collecting maintenance and performance histories and bringing that information to centralized digital platforms. Computerized Maintenance Management Systems (CMMS) and Building Automation Systems (BAS) are two types of digital management systems that are becoming more prevalent in building operations. In this FacilitiesNet article, contributing writer Laurie Gilmer looks at how these systems can interact and help overcome maintenance backlogs, unattended alarms, and air circulation issues. The author also looks at how CMMS can assist in a more engaged and successful facilities team through better communication and coordinated operations. [Read more on FacilitiesNet.](#)

Building Renewal Series: The Importance of Measurement and Verification

When planning for building renewal, it is important to make space for Measurement and Verification (M&V) in your improvements to be able to fully and properly quantify your efficiency gains. This process isn't just important for determining the functionality of equipment- in many cases, M&V is used to determine actual savings that may be used for incentives or determining if service targets were achieved. In part 4 of BetterBricks' Building Renewal Series, staff delve into different methodologies and purposes for M&V work, as well as offer resources and tools to improve your M&V process. [Read more on BetterBricks.](#)

Case Study: A Review of Energy Efficiency Interventions in Public Buildings

In this case study published by the journal *energies*, mechanical engineers from Hellenic Mediterranean University review energy efficiency interventions in a variety of public facilities, including hospitals, schools, and government offices. Authors examine building techniques and design processes, as well as technology choices and retrofit strategies that can provide both active and passive solutions for

high energy consumption. Finally, the case study analyzes electrical and thermal savings before reviewing barriers to efficiency in public buildings, which often face more intensive usage and longer lifetimes than similar structures in the private sector. Read the *energies* article by Nikolaos Papadakis et al on the Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

➤ ALL EVENTS VIRTUAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ◀

Better Buildings Webinar Series

All are online webinars.

- Growing Your Green Team: Engaging Residents and Staff for Successful Decarbonization Projects – Nov 12
- From Smart to Smarter: Advances in Industrial Control systems Improve Efficiency – Nov 19
- A Smashing Success: Sustainable Management of Demolition Debris – Dec 3
- For the Birds: Energy Co-Benefits of Bird-Friendly Buildings – Dec 10

[Click here for more information](#)

US DOE Better Buildings

ENERGY STAR® and Portfolio Manager® Trainings

All are online webinars.

- How to Apply for ENERGY STAR Certification – Oct 31
- Correcting Common Errors when Benchmarking in Portfolio Manager – Nov 6
- Portfolio Manager 101: Navigating Portfolio Manager, Adding a New Property, and Entering Use Details – Nov 7
- Verifying the ENERGY STAR Certification Application – Nov 12
- Cut Utility Costs and Certify Your Vehicle Dealership with ENERGY STAR – Nov 18
- Portfolio Manager 201: Editing Property Details, Data Quality Checker, and Sharing Property Data – Nov 19
- Using Advanced Metering Infrastructure to Reduce Facility Water Use – Nov 20
- Class is in Session: How Schools are Engaging Staff and Students Around Energy Efficiency – Nov 21
- Portfolio Manager 301: Spreadsheet Uploads, Setting Goals, and Creating Custom Reporting Templates – Nov 26
- Making Data Actionable: When and How Data Can Trigger Decisions – Dec 5
- Ask the Expert – every other Wednesday

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

U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR

BCxA 2024 Classroom Training Schedule

- New Construction Commissioning (NCCx) – Nov 4 in Seattle
- Existing Building Commissioning (EBCx) – Nov 6 in Seattle

- Building Enclosure Commissioning (BECx) – Nov 8 in Seattle
- BCxA Full Week Training, includes two days in each of the New Construction and Existing Building Workshops and one-day Building Enclosure Workshop – Nov 4-8 in Seattle

[Click here for more information](#)

Building Commissioning Association

Building Operator Certification. BOC 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 four to six months.

Washington State

- Early 2025 Level I Class in Spokane
Jan 15 to Apr 16
[Register Here](#)
- Spring 2025 Level I Classes via Zoom
Feb 26 to Jun 5
[Register Here](#)

Oregon

- Spring 2025 Level I Class via Zoom
Apr 10 to Oct 9
- Spring 2025 Level II Class via Zoom
March 13 to August 21

[Click here for BOC Oregon information](#)

Building Operators Certification, Northwest Water & Energy Education Institute

WAMOA

- Leadership Seminar – Mar 20-21, 2025 in Leavenworth

[Click here for more information](#)

Washington Association of Maintenance and Operation Administrators

National Facilities Management and Technology Conference and Expo – Save the Date

- Mar 25-27, 2025 in Baltimore, MD

[Click here for more information](#)

National Facilities Management & Technology

Getting to Zero Forum – Save the Date

- Apr 22-24, 2025 in Los Angeles

[Click here for more information](#)

New Buildings Institute

2025 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit – Save the Date

- Apr 30 to May 2, 2025 in Washington, D.C.

[Click here for more information](#)

U.S. Department of Energy, Better Buildings

RESOURCES

BetterBricks SEM Talk Cards

As RCMs, a large part of your duties is working with building operators, management, and engineers to ensure proper functionality of equipment and gain additional visibility into operations while educating staff and demonstrating techniques to achieve more efficient facilities. BetterBricks has developed a series of Energy Talk Cards for both commercial and industrial facilities that give you prompts and context for talking efficiency with staff. These cards have questions regarding lighting, envelope, plug loading, air handling and HVAC systems, controls, plant equipment, and other critical building systems as well as “correct” answers to share and are designed to spark productive conversation between an RCM and other staff. The Talk Cards can impart additional knowledge on staff while allowing the RCM to learn important information about how staff has been operating the building. [Find the Commercial and Industrial Talk Cards on BetterBricks.](#)

New K-12 Health and Safety Guide from DOH and OSPI

The Washington State Department of Health and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction have collaborated to create the 2024 Edition of the Health and Safety Guide for K-12 Schools in Washington State. The guide is a comprehensive document covering nearly every aspect of operations in a school, including procedures, building operations, plumbing, HVAC, Indoor Air Quality, and more education-specific topics. While each district is responsible for implementing the items in the Health and Safety Guide, RCMs and engineers that work with schools will find helpful resources to properly serve their scholastic clients. [Read the guide on the Department of Health website here.](#)

Smart Buildings Center Help Desk

The Smart Buildings Center’s (SBC) [CBPS Help Desk](#), which is a utility and Commerce-sponsored helpdesk, provides free technical assistance, resources, and training on the Clean Buildings Performance Standard. Within CBPS you can access the Clean Buildings Helpdesk for one-on-one appointments or virtual meetings; CBPS documents, Energy Star Portfolio Manager benchmarking instructions and uploading data instructions to your utility; and training videos, on-demand past workshops, and WSU CBPS webinars.

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 the RCM team](#) 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 email to RCM@energy.wsu.edu.

