

the energy CONNECTION

November 2022

Energy Office in Action



SEED STEM Festival

On October 1st, the Energy Office attended the 37th annual SEED STEM Festival at the Ruth Patrick Science Education Center at the University of South Carolina Aiken (USC Aiken). The event celebrated innovations in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics).

iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival

The Energy Office team participated in the iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival on October 22nd. The festival is designed to showcase PreK-12 education and career pathways in Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEAM) through fun, hands-on learning for families from across Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda Counties. The purpose of the iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival is to ignite the interest of students in STEAM learning and career pathways.



Special Announcements

Accredited Commercial Energy Manager Course – December 2022

The Association of South Carolina Energy Managers (ASCEM), in partnership with the Energy Office, will hold its Fall Accredited Commercial Energy Manager (ACEM) course December 1 – 2 and 7 – 9, 2022.

This year's course will include four days of instruction including an introduction to energy basics and math, mechanical equipment, electricity and controls, and lighting and energy economics. The course will conclude with a final exam on Friday, December 9th. You may also opt to take individual course days/topics if you do not wish to pursue the certification, or if you would like a refresher on any particular subject matter.

Attendees should have a proficiency in high school general math and Algebra I, must be willing to study roughly three hours each night, and will be asked to complete basic homework assignments. Students will be expected to learn and apply various energy equations, including but not limited to the following:

- Conversion of energy units
- Thermal resistance, conductive and convective heat transfer, and sensible and latent cooling
- Airflow and water heating
- Power and load factor
- Lighting properties and illumination
- Simple payback period and net present value

The 4½-day workshop provides energy managers with a thorough overview of the many factors that affect commercial energy consumption as well as a foundation for identifying energy-saving investment opportunities. The overall objective of this training is to prepare attendees to provide energy management services to South Carolina's commercial sector and State of South Carolina governmental facilities. Areas of concentration include the thermal envelope, electrical systems, lighting, and HVAC fundamentals, as well as energy auditing procedures.

[Click here for details and registration](#). For more information, please contact Rick Campana via [email](#) or call 803-737-5229.

Association of South Carolina Energy Managers Conference Follow-Up

The Association of South Carolina Energy Managers (ASCEM) held their Fall 2022 Conference October 5th in Columbia, SC at the Saluda Shoals River Center. Over 120 individuals attended and were able to learn and network with their colleagues. The conference consisted of plenary sessions to educate SC public entity energy managers and exhibits. Session topics included electric vehicles, solar, and energy management.

The SC Energy Project of the Year and SC Energy Manager of the Year also received their awards at the conference. Florence School District 3 won Energy Project of the Year for their mini-grant lighting project, and John Atkinson with Beaufort County School District was presented with Energy Manager of the Year. A video recognizing Mr. Atkinson and all the previous Energy Managers of the Year for their accomplishments can be found on the [ASCEM awards site](#). Award and scholarship nominations for 2023 are being accepted through **February 15, 2023**.

Conference presentations are available on the [ASCEM Conference website](#). Also, please save the date for the Spring SC Tri-Association Conference that will be held **March 11-14, 2023**.



Articles

Saving Money With Electric Vehicles

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/saving-money-electric-vehicles>



Why South Carolina Could Be NASA's Next Frontier

https://scbiznews.com/news/innovation/82730/?utm_term=Why

Hurricane Ian barely affects solar community in Florida

<https://www.pv-magazine.com/2022/10/10/hurricane-ian-barely-affects-solar-community-in-florida/>

Energy Assessments Help Keep the Cold Outside and the Warm Inside

<https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-assessments-help-keep-cold-outside-and-warm-inside>

Wind Turbine Design Targets Onsite Renewable Energy Market

<https://www.renewableenergyworld.com/news/wind-turbine-design-targets-onsite-renewable-energy-market/>

Energy 101

[https://ors.sc.gov/sites/ors/files/Documents/Energy%20Host%20Docs/Energy%20101%20Article%20\(Nov%202022\).pdf](https://ors.sc.gov/sites/ors/files/Documents/Energy%20Host%20Docs/Energy%20101%20Article%20(Nov%202022).pdf)

Webinars and Training Opportunities



Solar and Clean Energy Fundamentals Workshop

The Energy Office's Solar and Clean Energy Course, held in May 2022, is available on demand through November 2022. This course reviews the basics, policy, rates, and procurement options for solar, storage, and electric vehicles.

July - November 2022 (On Demand)

Earn PDHs and APA credits!

\$50.00

[Learn more](#) and register.

DOE Webinar Series: EV Grid Assist

The U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) is hosting a webinar series as part of DOE's EV Grid Assist: Accelerating the Transition initiative. The initiative aims to support decision makers by providing timely information on a wide range of topics important to the integration of electric vehicles and the grid. More information regarding EV Grid Assist, as well as registration links for all of the upcoming webinars can be found at www.EVGridAssistWebinars.com (registration links are also included below). Please register individually for any sessions of interest.

· **Planning for the Future:** Thursday, November 10 from 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (register at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4381437712968746512>)

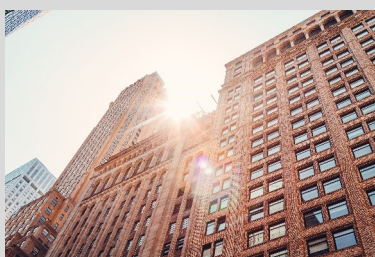
U.S. Dept. of Energy's Better Buildings Webinar Series

The Better Buildings Webinar Series takes on the most pressing topics facing energy professionals, with new experts leading the conversations on proven best practices, cost-effective strategies, and innovative new ways to approach sustainability and energy performance. [Click here](#) to view the series line-up.

· **MEASURing Up: Leveraging the Capabilities of the MEASUR Toolsuite: November 15, 2022 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm** https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/2516607514527/WN_jz4DauT6SZahRKgnwhmqTQ#/registration

· **The Thrill of Bills: Leveraging Your Water Bills to Maximize Efficiency: December 6, 2022 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm** https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4416607508304/WN_0K9h5ZI4QMi3KGoyKmtGZQ#/registration

· **Electrification Station: Decarbonizing City Buildings and Fleets: December 13, 2022 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm** https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6016608527024/WN_etoeVVLZQJIFnqIGc6i45A#/registration



How to Apply for the ENERGY STAR for U.S. Buildings - November 10, 2022 at 1:00 pm

Learn about applying for ENERGY STAR Certification in Portfolio Manager. Understand the value of the ENERGY STAR certification, see the step-by-step process of applying, and gain tips to help your property get from application to award. [Learn more and register here.](#)

ENERGY STAR Webinar: Ask the Expert - November 16, 2022 at 12:00 pm

This live webinar gives all users an opportunity to ask their questions directly to EPA experts in an open forum. Want to talk to a "real" person? Have a question about how Portfolio Manager calculates your score? Want to learn more about entering Green Power? Join us, and experts will answer all your questions about ENERGY STAR's Portfolio Manager in this public forum. [Learn more and register here.](#)

How to Track Waste and Materials in Portfolio Manager - November 17, 2022 at 1:00 pm

In addition to benchmarking energy and water use in Portfolio Manager, you can measure and track waste & materials generated by your building. Upgrade from the cumbersome spreadsheet you have been using, or get started for the first time, and learn how to use the waste tracking feature. [Learn more and register here.](#)

ENERGY STAR Challenge for Industry - November 29, 2022 at 1:00 pm

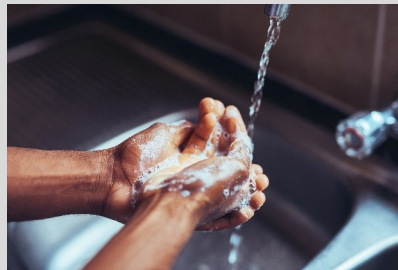
The ENERGY STAR Challenge for Industry recognizes manufacturing facilities that reduce energy intensity by 10% or more within 5 years or less. This session will review how to participate and ways to leverage the Challenge to improve energy performance. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Financing Energy Efficiency Projects: What to Know Before you Sign - December 1, 2022 at 1:00 pm

During this session, attendees will learn the ins and outs of how to finance energy efficiency projects at public sector, commercial, and industrial buildings. The webinar will review key considerations managers should make while comparing financing options, tax strategies, and energy goals. Furthermore, this webinar will also touch on energy performance contracting and off-balance-sheet financing. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Achieving Water and Cost Savings in Capital Improvement Projects - December 7, 2022 at 2:00 pm

Achieving significant water savings can often require going beyond the low-hanging fruit. Find out how to take the information collected during a facility water assessment to evaluate and prioritize larger-scale projects to maximize water, energy, and cost savings. Get the information you need to include water efficiency in capital improvements through equipment retrofits and replacements during a renovation or when designing a new facility or space. [Learn more and register here.](#)



Visit the [ENERGY STAR Webex page](#) for a full list of upcoming webinars.

Resources and Recordings

Find Rebates on Commercial Building Equipment

On September 8, ENERGY STAR hosted a webinar focused on helping you find rebates for commercial building equipment. [Watch the recording of this webinar](#) to learn more and see live demos of each tool.

About the South Carolina Energy Office

The Energy Office, housed within the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff, serves as the principal energy planning entity for the state. The mission of the Energy Office is to advance South Carolina's energy strategy and policy through education and outreach.

The Energy Office promotes the efficient use of all energy sources. In addition, the Energy Office encourages energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation through a broad range of initiatives that include developing the State Energy Plan, providing technical assistance, offering financial assistance, conducting education and outreach, and maintaining an energy data resource.



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South Carolina Energy Office | 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, SC 29201

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