ENERGY.GOV
Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Building Technologies Office

October 10, 2019

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

Apply to Compete in the 2020 Solar Decathlon Design Challenge

The annual U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Decathlon® Design Challenge is a collegiate competition in which teams create residential or commercial building designs that are innovative, cost-effective, quick to build, high quality, resilient, grid-interactive, efficient, and locally responsive. Don't miss this exciting opportunity! The application deadline of November 5, 2019 is fast approaching!

2020 Design Challenge teams that are selected as finalists will present their projects at an expert-juried event, April 17-19, 2020, at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado. Teams choose from six building types to create designs.

On a related note...the 2020 Solar Decathlon Build Challenge is already underway and will culminate with events to be held as part of the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, D.C., Friday, June 25th to Tuesday, July 5th, 2020.

Apply today.

Record Year for the Building America Solution Center

The Building America Solution Center (BASC), DOE's repository for residential building construction best practices, is expected to have another record year by reaching more users than ever before. In 2018, the BASC received more than 640,000 page views. In 2019 to date, the BASC has already had more than 520,000 page views, a 28% increase over last year. Since launching in 2013, the BASC has had more than 1.5 million users, with 3.2 million page views.

Building AMERICA® U.S. Department of Energy

See why the Solution Center is popular with builders, researchers, and more!

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Progress Update

In 2018, more than 85,000 households made energy savings improvements to their homes through Home Performance with ENERGY STAR's (HPwES) network of 40 Sponsors. HPwES Sponsors continue to expand and

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JOIN THE BETTER BUILDINGS NETWORK

Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

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Tackling Workforce Shortages in the Residential Energy Field

Thursday, October 24, 2019
Health and Energy Efficiency Are Trending -- Learn What's Happening

Thursday, November 14, 2019
Window Treatments -- The Undervalued Highly Efficient Energy Efficiency Measure

Thursday, December 12, 2019
Electrification -- What Does It Mean for Energy Efficiency

Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries, including the most recent below, can be found at the BBRN Peer Exchange Call Summary webpage:

Thursday, July 25, 2019
Connected Homes and the Grid -- Flipping the Switch on the Script

Thursday, July 11, 2019

diversify their programs and services, including home energy upgrades for low-to-moderate-income households, multifamily improvements, and integrating HPwES projects with healthy homes initiatives. To learn more about the accomplishments of HPwES Sponsors and their participating contractors, view the 2019 HPwES progress update slides, or check out 2019 ENERGY STAR Award winner profiles.

New Better Buildings Residential Network Lessons Learned Available

The Better Buildings Residential Network hosts Peer Exchange Calls that connect energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from one another to increase the number of energy efficient homes. If you missed a call of interest, check out the accompanying "lessons learned fact sheets." Recent calls focused on cybersecurity and installation best practices.

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative®

Learn lessons shared by the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative and others in the fact sheet.

First Ever Solar Decathlon Africa

The first Solar Decathlon Africa opened on Friday, September 13, 2019 in Ben Guerir, Morocco. A total of 18 teams built zero energy homes, including four U.S. institutions: Colorado School of Mines, Worchester Polytechnic Institute, University of Seattle, and the University of Maryland. The event closed Friday, September 27, 2019.

See the full list of participating teams from around the globe.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
SOLAR DECATHLON

Partner Recognition

The Better Buildings Residential Network welcomes its newest members: the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Cormack Construction, Renewable Energy Owners Coalition of America, Sonoma County Energy Independence Program, and Building Envelope Materials!

If your organization is not yet a member, join now.

Resource Toolbox

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Resources for State and Local Leaders, U.S. Department of Energy

Next Generation Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Energy Efficiency in Real Estate Listings, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

The Growing Market for Clean Energy Portfolios, Rocky Mountain Institute

Getting Net Zero Upgrades to Scale -- The Future is Now

Thursday, June 27, 2019
Making the Most of Home Performance Project Data

Upcoming Events

October 15-17, 2019
ACEEE National Conference on Energy Efficiency as a Resource

October 29-30, 2019
Power & Renewables Summit

December 3-4, 2019
Energy Storage Summit

Quick Quiz

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, what percentage of heated air can be lost before it even reaches the register if ducts are not insulated and travel through unheated spaces? (See answer at bottom.)

A. Up to 20%
B. Up to 40%
C. Up to 60%
D. Up to 75%

Redefining Home Performance in the 21st Century, Building Performance Association

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Share the Residential Energy Dispatch Newsletter

Forward this email to colleagues or encourage them to sign up to receive each issue themselves. To subscribe, they can simply email the Better Buildings Residential Network at bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov.

Quiz Answer: C