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Office of
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Building Technologies Office

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RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

2020 Housing Innovation Award Winners

The U.S. Department of Energy Zero Energy Ready Home program introduced the Housing Innovation Awards in 2013 to provide national recognition to industry leaders in the Zero Energy Ready Home program. Since 2013, the program has certified more than 6,000 homes. This includes more than 1,500 homes certified in the first six months of 2020, putting the program on track to double for the sixth consecutive year.

The 2020 Housing Innovation Awards ceremony will be held as part of the [EEBA Virtual High-Performance Home Summit](#). One Grand Winner will be announced in each category, as well as a Grand Award for the Most Homes Certified. The Grand Award Winners will then take part in a panel discussion.

[Learn more](#) about the Housing Innovation Awards.



DOE Announces Equity in Energy Ambassadors and Champions

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On August 20, the U.S. Department of Energy announced the first slate of Equity in Energy Ambassadors and Champions.

The Ambassadors come from academia, energy companies, and community organizations. They will share updates about Equity in Energy with their networks, attend Equity in Energy events, and speak out about the importance of diversity in energy. Champions are U.S. Department of Energy leaders who are tasked with evaluating their portfolios to ensure every possible measure is being taken for outreach, support, and accessibility.

[Read the full announcement.](#)



New Virtual Sessions Offered by Solar Decathlon on Innovative Homes, Energy Careers

The Solar Decathlon announced a new webinar series starting in September that will include virtual tours of innovatively designed homes and address a variety of topics from rise in zero-energy homes to clean-energy careers. Offered at no cost, these webinars will be available to the general public and target current and prospective homeowners, as well as educators, students, young professionals, members of the real estate industry, educators, home builders, renovation contractors, and others interested in learning about state-of-the-art home design and construction.

The [U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon®](#) is a collegiate competition that challenges student teams to design and build highly efficient and innovative buildings powered by renewable energy, and has inspired more than 450 collegiate teams and 23,000 students worldwide since 2002.

[View and register](#) for the webinars in this series.

Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

Thursday, October 8
[TRANSFORMATION: Technology that Can Change the Residential Energy Efficiency World](#)

Thursday, October 22
[Zero Energy Goals and Residential Energy Efficiency – How Are They Fitting Together?](#)

Thursday, November 12
[Conversations with Utility Commissions, Efficiency Programs, and Homeowners – Translating Building Science to the Real World](#)

Thursday, December 10
[A Review of the Historic Past Year in Energy Efficiency](#)

Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries, including the most recent ones noted below, can be found at the [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Summary webpage](#):

Thursday, August 13
[Residential Energy Efficiency Programs and Homeowners Now: Six Months Later](#)

Thursday, July 23
[Energy Efficiency Funding for Residential Programs: Challenges and Opportunities](#)



Thursday, July 9
[The Increased Focus on Health in Buildings](#)

Thursday, June 25
[Remote Energy Efficiency Assessments – The New Normal?](#)

New Study Concludes Homebuyers Prefer Energy-Efficient Homes

A recent [study](#) by the [American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy \(ACEEE\)](#) found adding information on energy efficiency to real-estate listings makes homebuyers more likely to choose efficient homes. The authors concluded that if home-listing websites included efficiency information, sellers would likely be more interested in implementing energy-efficiency upgrades, given the payoff at the time of sale.

The study also found that a [Home Energy Score](#) is the most effective way to display efficiency information, based on participants' responses to several different types of displays on home listings. Read news coverage of the findings [here](#).



Quick Quiz

In an average four-person American household, what percentage of total home-energy use is devoted to water heating? (Answer at bottom.)

- A. 10%
- B. 18%
- C. 24%
- D. 38%

Building Performance Institute (BPI) Introduces Healthy Housing Principles Certificate and Reference Guide

BPI recently released its Healthy Housing Principles Certificate of Knowledge and reference guide. The guide covers the eight "Keep It" principles (keep it clean, dry, pest-free, containment-free, safe, ventilated, comfortable, and maintained).

The target audience for the publication includes community health workers, in-home nurses, asthma educators, housing professionals, technicians, utility program representatives, inspectors and realtors.

[Learn more about these resources.](#)



Partner Recognition

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) welcomes its newest members: [Washington State Department of Commerce](#), [National Energy Improvement Fund](#), [Flair](#), [Jofforts Energy](#), and [Anderson Sustainable Architecture](#)!

If your organization is not yet a member, click [here](#) to join.

Resource Toolbox



[Using Performance Incentive Mechanisms to Accelerate Progress on Energy Policy Goals](#), Rocky Mountain Institute

[Building Energy and Health Funding for In-Home Programs: Federal Funding Opportunities](#), American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

[Energy Efficiency 101](#), Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

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Quiz Answer: C

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