

ENERGY.GOV

Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY

Building Technologies Office

February 10, 2021

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

More Than 20,000 Home Energy Scores Produced in Portland, OR

A multi-year effort that collected energy efficiency data on homes in [Portland, Oregon](#), has exceeded expectations and produced more than 20,000 [Home Energy Scores](#). The [results](#), which were recently shared with the Portland City Council, revealed tremendous opportunities for Portland's older homes to become healthier, more efficient and less polluting. Other cities throughout Oregon are joining the effort, including the City of Milwaukee, which launched its Home Energy Score program last month.

[Learn more about Portland's Home Energy Score Program.](#)



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Solar Decathlon Design Challenge Teams Announced

The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon® is a collegiate competition, comprising 10 Contests, that challenges student teams to design highly efficient and innovative buildings powered by renewable energy.

The 2021 Design Challenge has 103 participating teams from 75 collegiate institutions. They are competing to be one of the finalist teams, who will present their projects during the Design Challenge Competition Event, April 16-18, 2021.

[View the 75 participating collegiate institutions.](#)



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

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

While this year's Solar Decathlon Build Challenge was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these virtual sessions make it possible for the general public to learn more about how to improve their homes and move toward clean energy. To date, the DOE Solar Decathlon has inspired more than 450 college teams and 23,000 participating students worldwide.

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

Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

Thursday, February 11
[Passing the Test: How Are Residential Cost Effectiveness Tests Changing?](#)

Thursday, February 25
[The Latest on Windows: Thin Triples and Other Advances in Efficiency](#)

Thursday, March 11
[Carrying the Load: What Is the State of Load Flexibility and Energy Efficiency](#)

Thursday, March 25
[Electrification: What Does It Mean for 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, January 14
[A Look at the Coming Year in Energy Efficiency](#)

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



New Better Buildings Residential Network Lessons Learned Available

Better Buildings Residential Network member the [American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy](#) discussed emerging opportunities for health to drive residential energy efficiency, as featured in the new [Better Buildings Residential Network "Lessons Learned" fact sheet](#) that highlights recent Peer Exchange Calls. Summaries of hundreds of Better Building Residential Network [Peer Exchange Calls](#) are available with speaker PowerPoint presentations and are searchable by keyword and date.

Register for upcoming calls in the sidebar of this newsletter.



Zero Energy Ready Home Video Trilogy

DOE's Zero Energy Ready Home program helps homebuyers quickly identify high performance homes that are so energy efficient, all or most annual energy use can be offset with renewable energy. Now a trilogy of videos is available to tell that powerful story to American homebuyers.

View the [Live Better!](#), [Live Healthy!](#), and [Live Future Ready!](#) videos.

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

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

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

Thursday, September 24
[All About DATA SPIKE: Benchmarking and Reporting Energy Efficiency in a Pandemic](#)

Quick Quiz

According to the [Energy Information Administration](#), electricity accounted for what percentage of household end-use energy consumption in 2019? (Answer at bottom.)

- A. 21%
- B. 31%
- C. 41%
- D. 51%



Partner Recognition

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) welcomes its newest members: [Livable Housing](#), [Signify](#), [The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina](#), The California Institute of Environmental Design and Management, and Boulder Natural Solutions to the Network! If your organization is not yet a member, click [here](#) to join.

Resource Toolbox



[ResStock Housing Stock Analysis Tool](#), National Renewable Energy Laboratory

[How High Are Household Energy Burdens? An Assessment of National and Metropolitan Energy Burdens across the U.S.](#), American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

[New York State Value Based Payment \(VBP\) Resource Library](#), New York State Energy Research & Development Authority

[COVID Resource Page](#), Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships

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Quiz Answer: C

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