

Peer Exchange Calls, Summer 2021, No. 30

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 in order to increase the number of homes that are energy efficient. Follow the links below to view full summaries of each call, and visit the Better Buildings Residential Network website at energy.gov/eere/better-buildings-residential-network to view a schedule of upcoming Peer Exchange Calls.



Consider supplemental measures for enhanced energy and water savings.

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy's Jennifer Amann identified supplemental water measures that together offer real savings potential: heat pump water heaters, low-flow fixtures, tub-spout diverters, thermostatic restrictor valves, drain water heat recovery, and on-demand recirculation systems.

▶ [In Hot Water? Residential Efficiency, Affordability, & Technology](#) July 8, 2021



Facing 8 challenges to residential efficiency in hot climates.

The Association for Energy Affordability's Meghan Duff discussed 8 challenges to delivering energy efficiency in hot climates: material and labor shortages across the building industry; shortages impacting project costs and schedules; hot temperatures driving demand while making working conditions difficult; increased energy demand from cooling and air filtration; and the need for technical support for new, high-efficiency technologies.

▶ [Like a Heat Wave: Summer Healthy, Efficient Housing Challenges](#) July 22, 2021



Save energy and lives with passive cooling measures.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Ronnen Levinson talked about LBNL's modeling of nine passive indoor cooling measures during a worst-case heat wave: window blinds, window overhangs, cool roofs, cool walls, storm windows, window films, roof insulation, radiant barriers, and natural insulation.

▶ [The Cost of Cooling: Air Conditioning, Climate, and Health](#) August 12, 2021



Overcome the two biggest barriers to energy upgrades at replacement.

Efficiency First California's Charley Cormany discussed the two biggest barriers to selling equipment upgrades at the time of replacement: education and time. One of his many suggestions was offering temporary solutions such as portable air conditioning units in to "buy time" for a true upgrade.

▶ [EMERGENCY Replacements – the Biggest Real-World Obstacle to Efficiency?](#) June 24, 2021

