



## Public Housing Energy Conservation Clearinghouse News September 2003

This monthly e-mail update is brought to you by HUD's **Public Housing Energy Conservation Clearinghouse (PHECC)**. It features news and resources to help public housing authorities manage energy and water costs. To see past issues of this newsletter, and to access more information and tools for public housing authorities, visit the Public Housing Energy Conservation Clearinghouse website at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/ph/phecc/>.

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- New HUD Notice Affects Operating Subsidy, Utilities
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#### Events:

- Multi-Family Energy Efficiency Design Workshop. September 23. *Learn about the best approaches to achieving energy efficiency in new multifamily buildings!*
- Capital Fund Program Seminar. September 29-30. *Find out how this program can work for new housing development and/or major redesign strategies, including energy upgrades!*
- Energy Technology Seminar. October 8. *Discover how the latest energy-saving technologies in buildings can save you money!*

#### Success Stories:

- Solaire, Manhattan, New York—The first-ever LEED-rated multifamily building in New York City.
- City of Boulder Housing Authority, Boulder, Colorado—An energy-efficient lighting upgrade saves energy and maintenance costs.
- Gold Dust Apartments, Missoula, Montana—An affordable, multifamily housing project that features energy efficiency, photovoltaics, and sustainable design.

**Tip of the Month:** Save Energy and Money by Upgrading to Energy-Efficient Lighting

#### Websites Worth a Click

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## NEWS



### **New Energy Bill Passes Senate, Increases Energy Efficiency in Public Housing**

Senate Bill 14 (S. 14), also known as the Energy Policy Act of 2003, has successfully passed the Senate. The bill includes a number of provisions that are said to create jobs, increase energy conservation, expand production of current energy sources, and develop more clean and renewable energies for the future. Several of these provisions specifically address energy and water efficiency in public housing. The bill, sponsored by Sen. Pete Domenici (NM), now heads to a conference committee where House and Senate members will meld their two versions. The committee will meet later in September. To read the complete bill, see <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and look for S. 14.



### **New HUD Notice Affects Operating Subsidy, Utilities**

If you're in the throes of figuring out how to allocate your operating subsidy, be sure to take into account HUD's new Notice 2003-18. The Notice provides PHAs with additional information needed to complete the FFY 2003 subsidy eligibility calculations. Its goal is to "distribute operating subsidies equitably to all PHAs regardless of their fiscal year start dates and to make no obligations beyond the amounts appropriated by Congress for FY 2003." Additionally, the Notice updates the proration factor. Read the Notice on the HUD website at [http://www.hudclips.org/sub\\_nonhud/cgi/pdfforms/03-18p.doc](http://www.hudclips.org/sub_nonhud/cgi/pdfforms/03-18p.doc) to find out how it affects your PHA!

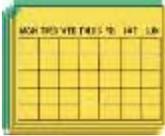


### **Pest Management Webcast—Learn about an Environmentally Friendly Approach to Manage Mosquitoes and Rodents**

Mosquitoes and rodents, such as rats and mice, can be a big problem for many housing authorities, particularly those in rural areas. And with the threat of diseases such as hantavirus and West Nile virus, controlling their population is particularly important for the health of public housing residents. However, many controls include chemicals that are hard on the environment. Fortunately, there is another option. Join a telecast on September 18 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern, presented by the Department of Health and Human Services, to learn about integrated pest management (IPM), a technique effective approach to reduce the overall threat from these pests and vectors. IPM is a "systems approach" that manages the environment in a manner that is effective, safe, economical, and sustained. For more information on the telecast, see <http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/PHTN/webcast/ipm/>.

Can't make the initial telecast? It will be available for viewing after September 18, 2003, at the above link.

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## EVENTS

### **Multi-Family Energy Efficiency Design Workshop**

September 23, 2003

San Francisco, California

Learn the most cost-effective means of designing, modeling, and building energy efficiency into new multifamily construction projects, and about resources that are available to assist your efforts to improve the energy efficiency of the multifamily projects you work on. For details, see <http://www.designingforefficiency.com/>.

### **Capital Fund Program Seminar**

September 29-30, 2003

Philadelphia, PA

Learn about new aspects of the Capital Fund Program, using "hands-on" case studies to practice applying these new concepts to real life. Find out about the program's new emphasis on mixed-finance leveraging of funds in the context of new housing development and/or major redesign strategies. See the entire agenda at [http://www.nahro.org/professional/seminars\\_capital.html](http://www.nahro.org/professional/seminars_capital.html).

### **Energy Technology Seminar**

October 8, 2003

Buffalo, New York

Presented by Rebuild America and New York Energy \$mart Communities, experts will address topics such as improving building performance through energy audits, lighting systems, mechanical systems and refrigeration, windows, building envelope, employee education and Energy \$mart assistance options. For more information, see <http://www.rebuild.org/events/eventdetails.asp?NewsID=1891>.



## SUCCESS STORIES

### **Solaire**

Manhattan, New York

A new multifamily building in Lower Manhattan, New York, is said to be the world's most environmentally responsible residential high-rise. It also is the first LEED-rated multifamily building in New York. Located near Ground Zero, the 293-unit Solaire features a number of energy-efficiency measures, recycled materials, solar energy systems, and an onsite water-filtration system. The building will use use 35 percent less energy than a conventional structure of similar size and purpose. For a complete description, see <http://www.thesolaire.com/>.

## Gold Dust Apartments

Missoula, Montana

The non-profit organization homeWORD made an important contribution to the community of Missoula, Montana, with its new Gold Dust Apartments. The housing complex provides 18 affordable housing units that highlight energy efficiency, renewable energy, and overall sustainable design. In addition, the project relied on recycled materials, and is located near public transit. According to Mayor Mike Kadas, the project "serves as a model for other new housing construction in the city." Funding for the project came from both public and private sectors. Learn more about the project on Fannie Mae's website at

<http://www.fanniemae.com/newsreleases/2003/2401.jhtml?p=Media&s=News+Releases>.

## City of Boulder Housing Authority

Boulder, Colorado

Looking to improve energy efficiency within its existing budget, the City of Boulder Housing Authority turned to an energy service company (ESCO). An energy audit performed by the ESCO showed that lighting improvements would provide the quickest payback for the housing authority, especially at two buildings that house senior citizens. Both buildings are more than 18-year-old high-rises and have common areas like hallways and community rooms, where many lights are kept on 24 hours a day. Fluorescent lighting was installed, saving the housing authority nearly \$4,000 each year in energy costs. Read more at

<http://www.esperform.org/stories/boulder.htm>.



### TIP OF THE MONTH

#### Save Energy and Money by Upgrading to Energy-Efficient Lighting

Old, inefficient lighting can cost public housing agencies and tenants a bundle. But you can reduce these costs by installing more energy-efficient lighting products, particularly those that are ENERGY STAR-certified. ENERGY STAR products are as much as 75 percent more efficient than standard lighting products, which can translate to big savings in your properties! Common areas, individual units, exterior areas, and even exit lighting can benefit from an upgrade, providing:

- Reduced energy consumption and costs
- Longer lamp life
- Safety and reliability
- Lower environmental impact

According to EPA, "if just one room in every home in the United States used ENERGY STAR lighting, the change would keep one trillion pounds of greenhouse gases out of our air." And replacing just five lights with ENERGY STAR products can save the average home \$65 each year!



Learn more about cost-effective lighting choices on the **Energy Star: Lighting** webpage at

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=lighting.pr\\_lighting](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=lighting.pr_lighting).



## WEBSITES WORTH A CLICK

### **PATH (Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing)**

Looking for viable, cost-effective solutions in your properties? Look to PATH for answers on topics such as Energy Efficiency and Environmental Impact, Affordability and Finance, Durability, Quality, Systems and Technology, and more! The PATH website is located at <http://www.pathnet.org/>.

### **Home Energy Checklist for Action**

There are many ways to reduce energy consumption in housing, both by management and tenants. Get started with this handy checklist from the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy!  
<http://www.aceee.org/consumerguide/chkfst.htm>.

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### **TO UNSUBSCRIBE TO THE PHECC ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER:**

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unsubscribe phecc

The **Public Housing Energy Conservation Clearinghouse** is managed by the nonprofit National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) for HUD, Office of Public and Indian Housing.

Comments? Questions? Email the newsletter editor at [cathys@phaenergy.org](mailto:cathys@phaenergy.org).

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