



Green Newsletter
April 2008

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IAPMO Issues TIAs

The IAPMO Standards Council has handed down favorable decisions on two Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) to the *2006 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)* and *2006 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)*.

To view the full press release direct your browser to www.iapmo.org/Pages/PressReleases.aspx

The TIAs can be downloaded from the links below:

2006 UPC TIA 023
2006 UMC TIA 018

IAPMO Calls for Increase in EPA WaterSense® Budget

IAPMO has signed onto a letter urging congressional committees to increase the budget of the EPA WaterSense® program from \$3 million to \$5 million in the FY 2009.

The EPA WaterSense® program is instrumental in the promotion and development of water efficient products. Water efficiency is a cost effective way to help communities cope with strained water supplies. The EPA estimates that water-efficient appliances could help save 3 trillion gallons of water, \$18 billion per year, and reduce American's water and sewer bills by one third.

The EPA has a staff of only six working with local water utilities, product manufacturers, and retailers to encourage water efficiency. WaterSense® is modeled after the Energy Star® program, which spent \$50 million in 2006 and saved taxpayers close to \$14 billion on their energy bills. Expanding the budget would help meet the growing demand of communities for easily identifiable certified water-efficient products.

To read the full letter: [Senate Letter](#) | [House Letter](#)

Legislation Ahead of Safety & Performance



The stress placed on water reserves has spurred many local governments to adopt legislation aimed at water efficiency and conservation. One of the easiest ways to achieve water conservation comes from limiting flow rates on plumbing products such as toilets, showerheads and faucets.

However, amendments such as those recently adopted in Dade County, Fla., have some in the plumbing industry concerned. The new regulations, effective July 1, 2008, limit the flow rate on showerheads to not exceed 1.5 gallons per

minute (gpm).

While the plumbing industry is committed to water efficiency, pursuing this goal must be realized while maintaining public comfort, health and safety. Reducing showerhead flow rates can potentially increase the risk of scalding and thermal shock. Setting standards in front of proper testing and evaluation does not ensure public safety.

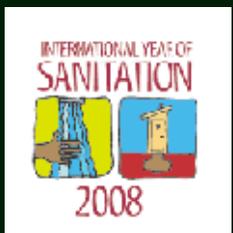
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In his "Working Together to Get Green Legislation Right," Plumbing Manufacturers Institute (PMI) President Rodman Ward said, "PMI does not support local municipalities or water districts that independently enforce reduction of flow rates solely to meet water reduction goals often without consideration of product performance issues or consumer satisfaction concerns."

There is not a performance based testing method for showerhead performance. The EPA WaterSense® program has issued a notification of intent to develop specifications for high-efficiency showerheads, but has not yet completed the process. The EPA is currently working with IAPMO, the California Energy Commission, PMI and other members of a joint task force of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) A112 Plumbing Committee and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) to conduct product testing and establish a showerhead performance standard that addresses water and energy savings, ensures consumer satisfaction and maintains health and safety. The EPA has targeted the end of 2008 for completion of the showerhead specification.

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DOE Energy Star®: New Criteria for Water Heaters, Changes to Clothes Washer and CFL Programs



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has announced new criteria for water heaters, changes to the criteria for clothes washers, and expanded the categories of compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL) under the Energy Star label.

For the first time, five categories of residential water heaters will be eligible for an Energy Star® label: high-performance gas storage, whole-home gas tankless, advanced drop-in or integrated heat pump, solar, and gas condensing. For further information, follow the link below. The new criteria will take effect Jan. 1, 2009.

As of July 1, 2009, clothes washers qualifying for the Energy Star® label must be 43 percent more efficient than current federal energy efficiency standards with a maximum water factor (WF)* of 7.5. On Jan. 1, 2011, clothes washers must have a WF of 6.0 and be 59 percent more efficient.

Changes to the CFL program limit the mercury content to less than 5 milligrams for most bulbs, expands the program to include candelabra-based CFLs, incorporates a third-party testing program for all bulbs effective in November 2008, tightens lamp color requirements, and adds high-heat testing requirements for reflectors. The revised Energy Star® criteria for CFLs takes effect on Dec 2, 2008.

To view the criteria for water heaters: www.energy.gov/news/6134.htm

To view the criteria for clothes washers and CFLs: www.energy.gov/news/6055.htm

*Represents water efficiency, calculated as gallons of water per cubic foot.

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REGREEN Guidelines Launched



The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Foundation and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) have launched the REGREEN Guidelines, the nation's first for green residential remodeling.

Aimed at professionals and homeowners alike, REGREEN provides resources and tools for green remodeling. The guidelines cover the ten most common remodeling projects including kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, and home performance. The guide features case studies addressing the major elements of green



renovation, including water efficiency and energy performance.

"Consumers overwhelmingly want greener homes, and the REGREEN Guidelines will help by showing them how," said Michelle Moore, senior vice president, U.S. Green Building Council, in a press release. "Surveys show that not having enough good information from trusted sources has been a huge obstacle. The REGREEN Guidelines empower people with practical information about how to green projects ranging from kitchen and bath renovations to deep energy upgrades."

The REGREEN Guidelines can be found at www.regreenprogram.org or www.greenhomeguide.org

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Solar Industry Growing in California



Year round sunshine makes California the ideal place to harvest solar energy. It should come as no surprise that the solar industry is seeing significant growth in the Golden State, helped along by legislation and the growing demand for renewable energy.

Southern California Edison has proposed the largest rooftop solar installation project ever by a utility. The plan is to install solar panels on the rooftops of more than 100 large businesses in Southern California. Covering two square miles, the panels will produce 250-megawatts of electricity, enough to power 160,000 homes. The utility hopes to have the first rooftop in service by August and will proceed by installing at a rate of one megawatt a week.

"These are the kinds of big ideas we need to meet California's long-term energy and climate change goals," Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said in a statement. "If commercial buildings statewide partnered with utilities to put this solar technology on their rooftops, it would set off a huge wave of renewable-energy growth."

FPL Energy LCC, the nation's largest purveyor of solar power, has announced plans to build and operate a 250-megawatt solar plant in the Mojave Desert. Called the Beacon Solar Energy Project, the site will contain more than 500,000 parabolic mirrors on 2,000 acres in Kern County. Construction is expected to take two years, with plans to begin in 2009 if approved by the California Energy Commission.

The push for renewable energy comes in part from the state requiring utilities to obtain 20 percent of its electricity from renewable energy sources by 2010. The California Public Utilities Commission reported that in 2006, 13 percent of the electricity of the states three biggest investor-owned utilities came from renewable sources such as wind and sun.

The [California Energy Commission](#) and the [California Public Utilities Commission](#) have been instrumental to the growth of solar in California. Through the California Solar Initiative, the agencies offer tax credits, rebates and other incentives to private sector companies for the research and development of solar energy technology. Rebates and incentives are also offered to business owners and homeowners who install solar energy systems.

To find out more about solar energy in Southern California, go to www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov

IAPMO has been developing the Uniform Solar Energy Code since 1976, a document aimed at providing a safe and functional solar energy system with minimum regulations. For any questions regarding the Uniform Solar Energy Code, call Adam Muliawan at (909) 472-4111 or contact by email: adam.muliawan@iapmo.org.

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The Renewable Energy Network for the 21st Century (REN21) has released its *Renewable 2007 Global Status Report* outlining the fast and expanding renewable energy markets, policies, industries and rural applications around the world.

The report shows that renewable energy is gaining ground in the mainstream of the energy sector. Generating capacity reached an estimated 240 gigawatts (GW) worldwide in 2007, a 50 percent increase from 2004. Renewable energy represents 5 percent of global power capacity and 3.4 percent of global power generation.

In 2007, global wind generating capacity saw an increase of 25 percent. Grid-connected photovoltaic (PV) capacity saw an increase of 50 percent, making it the fastest growing energy technology in the world.

At least 66 countries now have national goals and policies for the use of renewable energy. The report also estimates that the renewable energy sector accounts for more than 2.4 million jobs globally.

To read more, visit www.ren21.net

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Dallas Considering Green Legislation

Dallas is proposing legislation requiring all new construction be built to green standards. The first phase of the ordinance, effective Oct. 1, 2009, would require buildings of less than 50,000 square feet to use 15 percent less energy and 20 percent less water than the current energy conservation code mandates.

The second phase would go into effect on Oct. 1, 2011, and would require that all new construction be certifiable under either LEED or Green Built North Texas standards.

The City Council has extended the review process to allow developers to comment on the proposal. The ordinance will be voted on at the April 9 city council meeting.

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Durham Offers Free Reclaimed Water

Durham, N.C., has joined Raleigh and Cary in offering reclaimed water at no charge, provided customers complete a one-hour training course and take a minimum of 250 gallons directly from the facility.

The reclaimed water is only approved for landscaping and construction. Carwashes and pressure-washers cannot use reclaimed water unless it is dual treated with chlorine and ultraviolet light, a process the city hopes to implement in a couple of months.

For more information visit: www.durhamnc.gov/departments/wm/reclaimed_water.cfm

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Rain Bird 2008 Intelligent Use of Water™ Film Competition

Rain Bird is giving amateur and experienced filmmakers alike the opportunity to showcase their talents and bring awareness to the need of responsible water use in its 2008 Intelligent Use of Water™ Film Competition. Contestants must produce a short film with their answer and ideas for intelligent water use.

A judging panel made up of film and water management experts will review the short films. Finalists will be selected and invited to a special screening event on Oct. 11, 2008, in Los Angeles. Shalini Kantayya, director of the 2007 Audience Choice Award Winner, "A Drop of Life," will serve as master of ceremonies.

Following the screening at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden in Arcadia, winners will be announced immediately and cash prizes of \$6,000 for the Jury

Award and \$3,000 for the Audience Choice Award will be awarded.

"It has been proven time and again that film is an extremely powerful medium that is capable of inspiring global change," said Dave Johnson, Rain Bird's corporate marketing Director in a press release. "In sponsoring the 2008 Intelligent Use of Water Film Competition, we aim to encourage discussion on ways to manage and efficiently utilize the Earth's most precious resource.

"We are excited to once again be able to provide a forum that enables filmmakers of all sorts to actively raise awareness of this important issue."

Direct your browser to www.IUOWFILM.com to learn more.

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100-yr Water Supply Required for Sub-divisions

Developers looking to build in Cochise County, Ariz., will first be required to prove 100-yr water adequacy. The amendment to the zoning regulations is the first of its kind for the state, and will allow the Board of Supervisors to deny any proposed subdivision that is unable to prove water adequacy.

Tom Whitmer, Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) regional water resources planning section manager explained, "For a proposed subdivision that will be receiving water from a water provider or a central system, the definition currently states that if over the course of 100 years the projected demand from that subdivision will not cause the ground water table to decline below 1,200 feet from the surface of the ground, then it is deemed to have an adequate water supply for 100 years. If the proposed subdivision is going to be a dry lot subdivision, one that allows private wells on each lot, then the combined projected water use of that subdivision needs to demonstrate that over the course of 100 years, the groundwater table will not decline below 400 feet from the surface."

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Budget Chooses Quantity Over Quality

A report released by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on the Bush Administration's proposed FY09 budget cuts indicates that research into water quantity is coming at the expense of water quality. The report is an implication assessment of a 15 percent budget cut the USGS' National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program is facing next year.

The proposed budget cuts would "cease long-term data collection for ground water, sources of drinking water, and priority national topics, such as bioaccumulation of mercury in fish," according to the report. "Tens of thousands of chemical, physical and biological measurements in streams and wells would not be collected in 29 States."

The Bush Administration has instead asked Congress to provide \$3 million to the USGS to research water use and availability nationwide.

Read the full report: [NAWQA Program - Implications of Proposed FY09 Budget Cuts](#)

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EPA Seeks Public Comment on Water Strategy to Respond to Climate Change

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is seeking public comment on a draft strategy that describes the potential effects of climate change on clean water, drinking water, and ocean protection programs and outlines EPA actions to respond to these effects. The *National Water Program Strategy: Response to Climate Change* focuses on actions designed to help managers adapt their water programs in response to a changing climate. Other elements of the draft strategy include steps needed to strengthen links between climate research and water programs, and to improve education for water program professionals on potential climate change impacts. The strategy also identifies contributions that water programs can make to mitigate greenhouse gases. Some of the

potential impacts of climate change on water resources reviewed in the strategy include increases in certain water pollution problems, changes in availability of drinking water supplies and collective impacts on coastal areas. The public comment period is open for 60 days.

Information on the National Water Program Strategy: Response to Climate Change

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DOE 2008 Avg. Residential Energy Costs

According to Section 323 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, the Department of Energy (DOE) has published its 2008 representative average unit costs of energy.

Average Unit Costs of Energy for Five Residential Energy Source (2008)

Type of energy Per million	Per million Btu ¹	In commonly used terms	As required by test procedure
Electricity	\$31.65	10.80/kWh	\$.1080/kWh
Natural Gas	13.28	\$1.328/therm or \$13.65/MCF	.00001328/Btu.
No. 2 Heating Oil	23.00	\$3.19/gallon	.00002300/Btu.
Propane	26.50	\$2.42/gallon	.00002650/Btu.
Kerosene	27.41	\$3.70/gallon	.00002741/Btu.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Short-Term Energy Outlook (January 2008) and *Monthly Energy Review* (December 2007)

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Wal-Mart HE.5 Cuts Energy Use 45%



Retail giant Wal-Mart has unveiled its HE.5 prototype in Las Vegas, Nev., its first climate specific Supercenter. The new high efficiency store builds on lessons learned in its HE.1 and HE.2 stores, and touts a 45 percent energy reduction, its biggest gain yet.

"The HE.5 store features advancements in heating, cooling, refrigeration and lighting to conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas

emissions. Specifically, the store takes the integrated water-source format system that Wal-Mart piloted in its successful high efficiency stores and adapts it to the unique local climate by adding evaporative cooling and radiant flooring technologies. The new HE.5 system reduces the temperature of water naturally by pumping it through roof-mounted cooling towers then runs the cold water underneath the retail floor to cool the shopping

area. Together, the systems provide a comfortable shopping environment while using less energy," stated the press release.

"The Western Cooling Efficiency Center at the University of California, Davis, applauds Wal-Mart's cooling system design for the new Las Vegas store," said Richard Bourne, WCEC associate director in the press release. "We believe this is the most efficient cooling system implemented in a major retail facility. This project recognizes the very significant opportunity to integrate advanced natural cooling features in dry climates, thereby reducing the need to build new peak power generating plants."

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America's National Pastime Goes Green

Even professional baseball is pitching green — the Washington Nationals new stadium has received LEED certification, becoming the first professional "green" stadium.

The stadium received certification for its proximity to public transportation, its use of energy-saving light fixtures, water-conserving plumbing, drought resistant plants, and air-cooled chillers. The stadium is also built on a restored brownfield (abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contaminations — this one was once home to an asphalt factory), and implements a special system to control storm run-off from polluting the nearby Anacostia River.

Other stadiums have also enacted measures to go green. The Cleveland Indians installed solar panels at Progressive Park. Solar panels are also being installed at Boston's Fenway Park, the oldest stadium in Major League baseball, which opened in 1912.

The Pittsburgh Pirates and Oakland A's concessions cups are made from biodegradable cornstarch, and the Pirates use 100 percent recycled toilet paper and print their game-day programs with soy inks. The Seattle Mariners recycle food waste and plastic and paper containers.

The efforts to go green have been accredited to the partnership between Major League Baseball (MLB) and the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC).

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Go Green! Register online for IAPMO's 79th Annual Education and Business conference at www.iapmo.org

Events Calendar:

Kitchen and Bath Industry Show and Conference
April 10-13, 2008
McCormick Place
Chicago, IL
www.kbis.com

IAPMO Technical Committee Meeting 2008
May 5-9, 2008
The Adams Mark Hotel
Denver, CO
www.iapmo.org

63rd National Hardware Show
May 6-8, 2008
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
www.nationalhardwareshow.com

Green West Expo 2008
May 20-22, 2008
LA Convention Center
Los Angeles, CA
www.greenwestexpo.com

Ecobuild America® & AEC-ST
May 19-22, 2008
Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA
www.ecobuildamerica.com

Commercial Construction Expo
June 3-5, 2008
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL
www.cc-show.net

PCBC 2008
June 24-27, 2008
Moscone Center
San Francisco, CA
www.pcbc2008.com

Canadian Institute Annual Business Conference (ABC)
June 29 - July 2, 2008
Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Whistler, BC
www.ciph.com

IAPMO Emerging Technology Symposium
August 19-20, 2008
O'Hare Marriott
Chicago, IL
www.iapmo.org

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