



Green Newsletter  
June 2009

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## **IAPMO, GreenPlumbers® USA Collaborate for Advancement of Training and Certification Programs**

IAPMO and GreenPlumbers® USA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a collaborative arrangement to enhance the technical content of GreenPlumbers' training and accreditation modules by extracting provisions contained within IAPMO's Uniform Codes. IAPMO and GreenPlumbers will also partner to develop additional programs and services that will advance the sustainability goals of both organizations.

Through the collaborative agreement, GreenPlumbers will adapt their training/accreditation modules to follow provisions as outlined by the 2009 editions of IAPMO's Uniform Plumbing Code, Uniform Mechanical Code, Uniform Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Code, Uniform Solar Energy Code and the 2010 IAPMO Green Plumbing and Mechanical Code Supplement.

IAPMO and GreenPlumbers will also develop a Green Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector Certification Program derived from the Uniform Codes and the GreenPlumbers curriculum, with a target date for delivery in late 2009. GreenPlumbers has provided IAPMO with an exclusive Conservation/Foundation Partnership with regard to GreenPlumbers training and accreditation modules and programs.

Moving forward, the organizations will explore the feasibility of mutually creating an Engineer/Specifier certification module and training program.

"From its inception more than 80 years ago, IAPMO has embraced the conservation movement through its partnerships and provisions within its Uniform Codes," said Russ Chaney, IAPMO executive director. "The development of a Green Plumbing and Mechanical Certification program is an exciting next step in IAPMO's ongoing advancement of a sustainable environment and we are excited to work with GreenPlumbers on this progressive project."

GreenPlumbers® USA is an innovative, national training and accreditation program that assists plumbers in understanding their role in the environment and public health. The organization's goal is to train and deploy a "green army" of thousands of plumbers to promote the benefits of water conservation and the reduction of GHG emissions by changing consumer and plumbing behavior through the use of energy efficiency and water saving technologies. For more information, direct your Web Browser to [www.greenplumbersusa.com](http://www.greenplumbersusa.com).

"This industry will be very exciting over the next decade, as our training, codes, installations, products and designs focus on sustainability," said Steve Lehtonen, managing director of GreenPlumbers® USA. "I am thrilled to be working with Russ Chaney and the entire IAPMO organization on this world-changing adventure."

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## **CA Considers Emergency Modification to Graywater Standards**

An emergency modification to the 2007 CPC is being submitted to the California Building Standards Commission that could loosen the regulation of graywater in CA.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has been working with stakeholders to modify graywater standards in the 2010 California Plumbing Code.

However, HCD has decided to additionally propose the graywater standards for adoption as an emergency modification to the 2007 California Plumbing Code (2007 CPC).

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Their decision follows Governor Schwarzenegger's proclamation of a drought in February, when he declared a state of emergency and directed state agencies to prioritize and streamline permitting and regulatory compliance actions for desalination, water conservation and recycling projects to provide drought relief. Given the extensive code adoption process, adherence to the current triennial code adoption cycle schedule would make the proposed building standards effective at the local level on January 1, 2011. A delay of nearly 18 months in the effective date of graywater building standards does not address the Governor's declared emergency for the effective conservation of California's water resources, according to the HCD's findings.

The modifications will effect Chapter 16A, Nonpotable Water Reuse Systems. The new regulations would allow a clothes washer system and/or single fixture system to be routed outside without a permit. Additionally, the discharge lines would need to be under only 2 inches of mulch, rock, or soil — current regulations require lines to be buried 9 inches.

Testimony during HCD's focus study suggested there are thousands of unpermitted, unregulated graywater systems that could represent a hazard. The new standards would allow the development and installation of graywater systems while ensuring the protection of public health.

By proposing these standards on an emergency basis, they will become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State. HCD will submit the emergency package to the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) on July 1, 2009. The package will go before the CBSC as an action item on July 30, 2009, and if approved, will be filed with the Secretary of State on August 4, 2009. This revised schedule will establish an effective date almost 18 months sooner than the original, non-emergency timetable.

A draft of the proposed changes can be found at: [http://forms.iapmo.org/docs/ET\\_Emerg\\_Ch16A\\_REV6-18-09.pdf](http://forms.iapmo.org/docs/ET_Emerg_Ch16A_REV6-18-09.pdf)

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### **Pew Finds Clean Energy Economy Generates Significant Job Growth**

The number of jobs in America's emerging clean energy economy grew nearly two and a half times faster than overall jobs between 1998 and 2007, according to a [report \(PDF\)](#) released by The Pew Charitable Trusts. Pew developed a clear, data-driven definition of the clean energy economy and conducted the first-ever hard count across all 50 states of the actual jobs, companies and venture capital investments that supply the growing market demand for environmentally friendly products and services.

Pew found that jobs in the clean energy economy grew at a national rate of 9.1 percent, while traditional jobs grew by only 3.7 percent between 1998 and 2007. There was a similar pattern at the state level, where job growth in the clean energy economy outperformed overall job growth in 38 states and the District of Columbia during the same period. The report also found that this promising sector is poised to expand significantly, driven by increasing consumer demand, venture capital infusions, and federal and state policy reforms.

America's clean energy economy has grown despite a lack of sustained government support in the past decade. By 2007, more than 68,200 businesses across all 50 states and the District of Columbia accounted for about 770,000 jobs.

By comparison, the well-established fossil-fuel sector—including utilities, coal mining and oil and gas extraction, industries that have received significant government investment—comprised about 1.27 million workers in 2007.

"The clean energy economy is poised for explosive growth," said Lori Grange, interim deputy director of the Pew Center on the States. "These jobs are driving economic growth and environmental sustainability at a time when America needs both. There is a potential competitive advantage for federal and state policy leaders who act now to spur jobs, businesses and investments in the clean energy sector."

Pew's definition of the clean energy economy is based on research and input from experts in the field, including an advisory panel convened to help guide the study. According to Pew, "a clean energy economy generates jobs, businesses and investments while expanding clean energy production, increasing energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, waste and pollution, and conserving water and other natural resources." It comprises five categories: (1) Clean Energy, (2) Energy Efficiency, (3) Environmentally Friendly Production, (4) Conservation and Pollution Mitigation, and (5) Training and Support. The definition provides a groundbreaking framework for

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tracking jobs, investments and economic growth over time and allowing the public and private sector to evaluate the effectiveness of policy choices and investments.

The report finds that the emerging clean energy economy is creating well-paying jobs in every state for people of all skill levels and educational backgrounds. Included in Pew's definition are jobs as diverse as engineers, plumbers, administrative assistants, construction workers, machine setters, marketing consultants, teachers and many others, with annual incomes ranging from \$21,000 to \$111,000.

The private sector views the clean energy economy as a significant and expanding market opportunity. Venture capital investment in clean technology crossed the \$1 billion threshold in 2005 and continued to grow substantially, reaching a total of about \$12.6 billion by the end of 2008. In 2008 alone, investors directed \$5.9 billion into American businesses in the clean energy economy, a figure that represents a 48 percent increase over 2007 investment totals and accounts for 15 percent of all global venture capital investments.

Federal and state lawmakers also see the sector as helping to spur America's economic recovery and protect the environment. States will receive a major infusion of federal funds through the recently enacted American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which allocates nearly \$85 billion in direct spending and tax incentives for energy- and transportation-related programs. Additionally, every state offers some form of financial incentive to drive its clean energy economy. Twenty-three states have adopted regional initiatives to reduce the global warming pollution from power plants, 46 states offer some form of tax incentive to encourage residents and corporations to use renewable energy or adopt energy efficiency systems and equipment, and 29 states and the District of Columbia have established renewable portfolio standards, which require electricity providers to supply a minimum amount of power from renewable energy sources.

"There is bipartisan support and a growing market demand for transitioning to the clean energy economy," said Phyllis Cuttino, director, U.S. Global Warming Campaign, at the Pew Environment Group. "Americans understand the transition is good for the overall economy, is creating new opportunities for jobs and business growth, and helps protect our national security by reducing our dependence on foreign oil. Congress and the Obama Administration can and must produce energy and global warming legislation that creates jobs, enhances energy independence and sustains our environment."

View the [State-by-State Rankings \(PDF\)](#).

Download the Report: [http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean\\_Economy\\_Report\\_Web.pdf](http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean_Economy_Report_Web.pdf)

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### EPA's WaterSense Program Revises Draft Specification for Single Family New Homes

The WaterSense program has refined its draft labeling specification for single-family new homes (initially released in May 2008). The revised draft specification addresses efficient plumbing fixtures, hot water delivery systems, appliances, landscape design and irrigation. The revised specification will ensure that future WaterSense labeled homes still use 20% less water than similar new homes, while reducing the burden and cost to the builders. The modifications to the previous draft specification have built in some additional flexibility; the changes include:

- Hot water delivery systems — New performance standards no longer require specific types of hot water delivery systems or insulation of hot water pipes.
- Landscaping — The revised landscaping criteria allow for a wider variety of landscaping options.
- Irrigation systems — Additional requirements for minimum distribution uniformity values and rain shutoff devices increase the efficiency of newly installed irrigation systems.
- Water budget tool — An improved resource, the water budget tool, better reflects growing seasons and plant water requirements.
- Inspection guidelines- An optional sampling protocol adds flexibility and streamlines the inspection process for production builders.

These changes reflect further research, stakeholder comments and industry best practices. Once the specification is finalized, homes built and inspected to the specification will bear the WaterSense label.



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The updated specification for single-family new homes will be available for public comment through July 7, 2009. EPA anticipates releasing the final Water-Efficient Single-Family New Home Specification in late 2009.

EPA welcomes input on the revisions made to the specification, and encourages all interested parties to view the most recent documents and provide comments. In addition, EPA plans to hold at least one public meeting on the revisions in June 2009.

More information can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/specs/homes.htm>

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## Water Efficiency Attached to Energy Bill

The House Energy and Commerce Committee have approved a significant water efficiency amendment to the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. Introduced by Rep. McNerney, amendment H.R. 2368, or the Water Advanced Technologies Bill passed the Committee by a 34 — 21 vote.

Based on legislation authored by Reps. George Miller (CA-07) and Rush Holt (NJ-12), the amendment would promote water efficiency by codifying the EPA's WaterSense Program and expanding the scope of products eligible under the WaterSense label.

The amendment would provide \$50 million for grants to states, local governments, and other entities to offer financial incentives through vouchers or rebates to consumers who purchase and install water-efficient products and services.

"WaterSense lets consumers make smarter decisions about their water and energy use," said Rep. Miller. "As we make the transition to a clean energy economy, expanding WaterSense and providing incentives for water-saving consumer products will help reduce demand for water and for energy."

"Water efficiency saves energy by reducing the amount of energy used to heat, transport, and clean water. The savings are substantial and real," Rep. Holt said. "Our initiative offers a common-sense approach to promote water efficiency."

Nationwide, 14 percent of electricity is used for treating, delivering, and heating water, according to a press release by Rep. Miller. In California, one-fifth of the state's electricity is used for this same purpose. It's also estimated that if one out of every 100 American homes were retrofitted with water-efficient fixtures, it would save enough energy to power about 9,100 homes for an entire year and avoid adding 80,000 tons of greenhouse gas to the atmosphere.

Text of the bill can be viewed at: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=h111-2368>

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## Hard Water Can Quickly Clog Showerheads, Study Shows

*Independent analysis revealing benefit of softening*

The first results of a major new study on the effects of water softeners in the home have shown that untreated hard water can rapidly lead to clogged showerheads, in some cases possibly as soon as a year and a half of regular use.

After just one week of constant testing with hard water, more than three-fourths of showerhead nozzles became clogged, according to laboratory results. Showerheads using softened water, meanwhile, performed nearly as well as on the day they were installed. For an average household, the amount of testing and hardness was equivalent to fewer than 18 months of normal use, according to the researchers.

The results are part of a larger research project being conducted by the Battelle Memorial Institute, a non-profit international science and technology enterprise. Tests are being conducted using independently developed and impartial methods. Battelle was retained in February by the Water Quality Research Foundation to develop and run the tests.

In addition to the showerhead tests, engineers are examining the longevity of clothes washers, water heaters, and dishwashers using hard water versus softened water. Battelle is also conducting tests

to determine how much energy savings softeners can provide homeowners. The final research report is scheduled for September 2009.

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### **Do Softeners Slow Down Landfill Overflow?**

Because they extend the life of major appliances, water softeners help reduce landfill overflow and cut back on the environmental cost connected with manufacturing new devices. They also save energy.

Those are theories that a new, independent study will examine, the Water Quality Research Foundation announced today.

"By making sure our appliances run better with soft water, ion exchange water softeners ultimately help to protect the environment," said Peter J. Censky, executive director of the Water Quality Association, the body that oversees WQRF. "The goal of this study is to measure the extent of energy savings that are made possible by the use of these softeners."

The research project will test the longevity of clothes washers, dishwashers, and low flow faucets using hard and softened water. It will be conducted by the Battelle Memorial Institute, a non-profit international science and technology enterprise. Tests will be conducted using independently developed and impartial methods.

Battelle is also conducting tests to determine how much energy savings softeners can provide homeowners. The final research report for this aspect of the research is scheduled for September 2009.

*The Water Quality Association is a not-for-profit international trade association representing the residential, commercial, and industrial water treatment industry. Its membership consists of both manufacturers as well as dealers/distributors of equipment. WQA is a resource and information source, a voice for the industry, an educator of professionals, a laboratory for product testing, and a communicator with the public. WQA has more than 2,500 members nationwide. WQA promotes independent research through its support of the Water Quality Research Foundation.*

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### **Department of Labor Releases Guidelines for Green Jobs Training Grant Program**

The U.S. Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration (DOLETA) has published guidelines for green jobs training grants funded by the American Economic Recovery Act of 2009.

The Recovery Act has set aside \$500 million for training workers for employment in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries. DOLETA expects to have the grant applications available online later this month.

An overview of some of the potential funding opportunities:

- Energy Training Partnership Grants are for national labor/management organizations with local networks and statewide or local strategic nonprofit partnerships of labor/management organizations, labor, business, workforce investment boards and other organizations that deliver training in the energy sector and that lead to portable industry credentials and employment, including apprenticeships. Some of these grants will be reserved for communities or regions hard hit by auto industry layoffs.
- Pathways Out of Poverty Grants are for community or faith-based organizations with local networks and local partnerships that include business, labor, educational and community-based organizations providing training and placement services to individuals seeking employment in the energy sector. Targeted populations include under-skilled workers, unemployed youth and adults, high school dropouts, and underserved populations in high poverty areas. Successful grant applicant training programs in this category will address recruiting, basic skills and work readiness training, support services, and adaptable training locations and times.
- State Labor Market Information Improvement Grants are for state workforce agencies

(SWAs) or multistate consortiums of SWAs to collect and publicize labor market information and to develop a labor exchange infrastructure to facilitate employment in energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors. A program emphasis will ensure that workers trained in green jobs are able to find employment in those industries.

- State Sector Training Grants are available for State Workforce Investment Boards (SWIBs) and consortiums of SWIBs to develop state workforce development strategies in the energy sector. A portion of these funds will also be reserved for communities or regions hard hit by auto industry layoffs. The grant application process will be published in June with applications due by the end of the summer.

Information is available at [www.doleta.gov/recovery](http://www.doleta.gov/recovery).

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## **President Obama Announces Over \$467 Million in Recovery Act Funding for Geothermal and Solar Energy Projects**

WASHINGTON — President Obama has announced over \$467 million from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act to expand and accelerate the development, deployment, and use of geothermal and solar energy throughout the United States. The funding represents a substantial down payment that will help the solar and geothermal industries overcome technical barriers, demonstrate new technologies, and provide support for clean energy jobs for years to come. The announcement supports the Obama Administration's strategy to increase American economic competitiveness, while supporting jobs and moving toward a clean energy economy.

"We have a choice. We can remain the world's leading importer of oil, or we can become the world's leading exporter of clean energy," said President Obama. "We can hand over the jobs of the future to our competitors, or we can confront what they have already recognized as the great opportunity of our time: the nation that leads the world in creating new sources of clean energy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy. That's the nation I want America to be."

"We have an ambitious agenda to put millions of people to work by investing in clean energy technology like solar and geothermal energy," Energy Secretary Steven Chu said. "These technologies represent two pieces of a broad energy portfolio that will help us aggressively fight climate change and renew our position as a global leader in clean energy jobs."

### ***Geothermal Energy***

Geothermal energy is a clean source of renewable energy that harnesses heat from the Earth for heating applications and electricity generation; geothermal plants can operate around the clock to provide significant uninterrupted "base load" electricity, or the minimum amount a power utility must provide to its customers.

The Recovery Act makes a \$350 million new investment in this technology, dwarfing previous government commitments. Recovery Act funding will support projects in four crucial areas: geothermal demonstration projects; Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) research and development; innovative exploration techniques; and a National Geothermal Data System, Resource Assessment and Classification System.

- Geothermal Demonstration Projects (\$140 Million)
- Enhanced Geothermal Systems Technology Research and Development (\$80 Million)
- Innovative Exploration Techniques (\$100 Million)
- National Geothermal Data System, Resource Assessment, and Classification System (\$30 Million)

### ***Solar Energy***

Solar energy is a rapidly expanding industry with a double-digit annual growth rate in the United States. DOE is focused on supporting the U.S. industry's scaling up of manufacturing, production, and distribution so the technology can become cost competitive with conventional sources of energy. DOE will provide \$117.6 million in Recovery Act funding to accelerate widespread commercialization of clean solar energy technologies across America. These activities will leverage partnerships that include DOE's national laboratories, universities, local government, and the private sector, to strengthen the U.S. solar industry and make it a leader in international markets.

- Photovoltaic Technology Development (\$51.5 Million)
- Solar Energy Deployment (\$40.5 Million)

- Concentrating Solar Power Research and Development (\$25.6 Million)

Read information on these and other [Funding Opportunities](#) under the Recovery Act.

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### **Georgia's Plan for Conserving Water Released**

A plan to help Georgians use water more efficiently and foster a culture of conservation throughout the state was released by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (EPD). Georgia's Water Conservation Implementation Plan (WCIP) is a resource to guide Georgia's seven major water use sectors in an effort to help sustain the state's water resources and provide for a secure water supply in the future.

The WCIP, developed by the EPD in partnership with individuals representing the diverse water users of the state, includes sector specific chapters for business owners, farmers, homeowners, water service providers, landscapers, golf courses and state agencies.

Details of the plan include long-term conservation goals for each sector, benchmarks for determining progress, a menu of optional best practices and implementation actions designed to reduce water waste, water loss and, where necessary, water use.

"The ultimate goal of water conservation is not to discourage water use, but to maximize the benefit from each gallon used," said EPD Director Dr. Carol A. Couch. "This plan will guide Georgians toward more efficient and sustainable water use to help ensure that our water resources will continue to support growth and prosperity while maintaining healthy natural systems."

The WCIP was developed for Georgia business owners, farmers, homeowners, water service providers and government officials to assist with decisions related to water use and water management. It is a go to document that can be used to educate Georgia's citizens and to inform regional water planning councils, formed through Georgia's first Statewide Water Plan, Couch said.

Couch said the benefits of water conservation are realized on several levels. "Businesses can streamline operations and reduce operating costs through water conserving technologies and water providers can reduce water treatment and production costs by addressing water lost within their treatment and delivery systems," she said. "Landscapes can also become less vulnerable to drought conditions when they are designed for efficiency and the plants utilized are of a variety that requires less water.

In terms of economic development, emphasizing water conservation can promote responsible management of finite resources. In areas where resources are not limited, water conservation practices contribute to retaining water for current and future uses, and a statewide commitment to conservation also promotes equity across regions and across water use sectors, Couch said.

The WCIP was developed as a result of executive orders issued by Governor Sonny Perdue in 2007 and 2008, and implementation actions in the statewide water management plan. For more information on the WCIP, please visit [www.ConserveWaterGeorgia.net](http://www.ConserveWaterGeorgia.net).

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### **Video Highlight: "Green Speak" with Tom Meyer**



This issues video highlight is "Green Speak" with Tom Meyer.

GreenSpeak is an orientation to the language and culture of Green. Tom provides definitions to commonly used phrases and words, discusses misconceptions which must be overcome and identifies trends that are making Green not only mainstream but the future of our professions and lifestyles.

Part one can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bdbJBT4yqY>

For more videos from the International Emerging Technology Symposium, go to IAPMO's youtube page: <http://www.youtube.com/user/IAPMOGroup>

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#### IAPMO Green Seminars:

Seminar	Length	Credits
GreenSpeak	3 hours	0.3 CEUs
Intro to Green Plumbing and Mechanical Concepts	1 day	0.8 CEUs
Intro to Green Plumbing Concepts	1/2 day	0.4 CEUs
Intro to Green Mechanical Concepts	1/2 day	0.4 CEUs
2009 UPC Chapter 16, Nonpotable Water Reuse Systems	1.5 hours	0.15 CEUs
LEED® for Contractors	4 hours	0.4 CEUs
Building Rating Systems - A Comparative Analysis	4 hours	0.4 CEUs
For more information about IAPMO's Green Seminars, <a href="#">download the brochure</a> , visit <a href="http://www.iapmo.org/Pages/CareerServices.aspx">www.iapmo.org/Pages/CareerServices.aspx</a> , or email <a href="mailto:careerservices@iapmo.org">careerservices@iapmo.org</a>		

## Events Calendar:

**IAPMO 80th Annual Education and Business Conference**  
Sept 27 - Oct. 1, 2009  
Doubletree Hotel  
at Mission Valley  
San Diego, CA  
[www.iapmo.org](http://www.iapmo.org)

**WaterSmart Innovations Conference & Expo**  
October 7-9, 2009  
Las Vegas, NV  
[www.watersmartinnovations.com](http://www.watersmartinnovations.com)

**GreenBuild 2009**  
November 11-13, 2009  
Phoenix, AZ  
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