Commercial Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Incentive & Exchange Program

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) opened a new Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Incentive and Exchange Program to exchange older, polluting gasoline or diesel-powered commercial lawn and garden equipment for new zero emission, battery electric commercial grade equipment for operation within the four county region. This exchange program reduces the purchase price of the commercial electric lawn and garden equipment. The program is available to all eligible participants who work or reside in the broader geographic area within SCAQMD’s jurisdiction. Eligible participants include non-profits, commercial and other organizations.

Joint Commission Infection Prevention and Control Portal - Legionnaires Disease

The Joint Commission created a new portal regarding Legionnaires Disease. This portal contains links to Center for Disease Control articles and toolkits to assist creating and managing a facility water management program.

Many NFPA Codes Open for Public Comments

Many National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes and standards are open for public comments. The American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE), as well as the California Society for Health Care Engineers (CSHE), encourages their members and others in the health facility management industry to review the drafts open for comment below and submit comments;

- NFPA 3, Standard for Commissioning of Fire Protection and Life Safety Systems
- NFPA 70E, Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace
- NFPA 90A, Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems
- NFPA 90B, Standard for the Installation of Warm Air Heating & Air-Conditioning
- NFPA 99, Health Care Facilities Code
- NFPA 99B, Standard for Hypobaric Facilities
- NFPA 220, Standard on Types of Building Construction
- NFPA 221, Standard for High Challenge Fire Walls, Fire Walls, and Fire Barrier Walls

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CMS Updates Emergency Preparedness Rules… Again.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a memo detailing two changes to Emergency Preparedness Appendix Z; “emerging infectious diseases” was added to the current definition of all-hazards approach & guidance under Tag E0015- Alternate Source Power & Tag E0042- Emergency Standby Power Systems to provide clarifications related to portable/mobile generators. Other items clarified in the update include:

- Safe temperature guidance for areas necessary to protect patients.
- Emergency preparedness training for contracted employees.
- Exception for facilities that activate their Emergency Operations Plan at least twice in one year from the annual exercise requirements.

ASHE Partners with DHS on Powered for Patients Project

The American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE) is partnering with Powered for Patients on a Department of Homeland Security-funded project to help ensure hospital safety during disasters. ASHE is seeking members who are currently using fault-detection and automated-reporting technology for their emergency power systems to engage in dialogue regarding the systems and to volunteer as test sites for a pilot project administered by Powered for Patients.

Take the 2019 IAHSS Crime Survey

The International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety (IAHSS) is urging healthcare security professionals to take its 2019 Crime Survey. To participate, take these three easy steps:

1. Review the printable copy, which can be found here.
2. Gather the necessary data for your organization.
3. Take the survey by clicking here.

See the 2017 IAHSS Crime Survey results HERE.