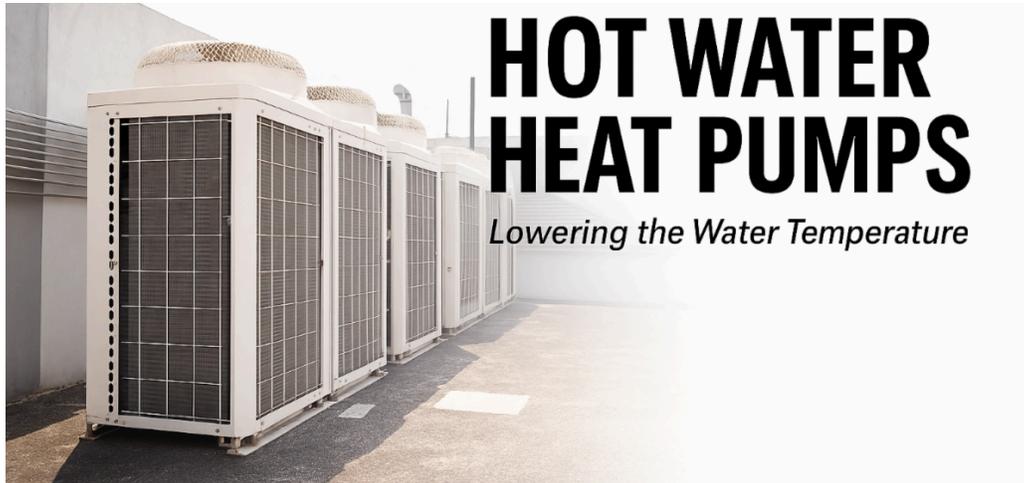


JANUARY NEWSLETTER



GETTING INTO HOT WATER



Case Study: Elizabeth James House CO2 Heat Pump Water Heater (HPWH) Multifamily Retrofit - BetterBricks

The Elizabeth James House CO2 HPWH Multifamily Retrofit case study demonstrated that multiple Sanden (CO2) heat pump water heaters (typically used in single-family residential applications), together with a novel "swing tank" design, can collectively serve the water heating and recirculation loop temperature maintenance needs of a 60-unit low-rise multifamily building in the Pacific Northwest.

[Read More](#)

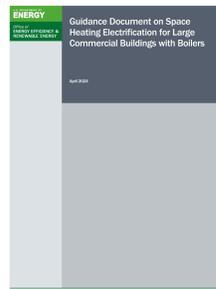


University Installs Emerge X | A. O. Smith Case Study

Washington and Lee University is a private, historic university nestled in the Shenandoah Valley with some unique water heating needs. The university wanted an energy-efficient, sustainable, cost-effective water heater that would fit into a trickier installation spot—so they turned to A. O. Smith. In the end, they determined that A. O. Smith's Emerge® X Air Source Heat Pump Water Heater (HPWH) was the best fit for the university's new business college building.

[Read More](#)

Large commercial building boiler replacement guide - DOE 2024



Events



2-3:30 PM
Cobblestone Farm

Sustainable Food Business Coalition - 2026 Kickoff Event and Sustainability Social!

Kick off the new year by connecting with fellow food producers, retailers, restaurants, and business leaders from across the Ann Arbor area at a lively afternoon of networking and inspiration. Hosted by the Ann Arbor Sustainable Food Business Coalition and the Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations, this event brings together entrepreneurs and professionals who care about building a stronger, more resilient local economy. Enjoy great conversation, light refreshments, and opportunities to build new partnerships while you learn about resources to help your business grow and thrive. You'll also discover how sustainable practices can bolster your bottom line while finding ways to get involved in the region's growing network of forward-thinking food businesses dedicated to positive community impact. Get in the sustainable spirit by wearing your favorite shade of green and join us for an afternoon of community connection, collaboration, and new ideas for the year ahead! [Register here.](#)



12-1 PM
[Register here](#)

Implementing the A²ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan 2026 Session I: Hot Water Heat Pumps

Speaker: Caleb Kline, P.E.

Explore how existing buildings can electrify their hot water boiler systems, reducing carbon emissions and improving efficiency. We'll discuss strategies for retrofitting older hydronic systems to operate at lower water temperatures, enabling compatibility with heat pumps. Building owners will learn how to test their existing systems this winter to determine which spaces will need additional heaters or insulation. The same heat pumps can also produce chilled water so a retrofit is a great opportunity to add cooling to spaces.

For new construction, we'll show how designers can incorporate hot water heat pumps from the start, maintaining the maintenance, flexibility, and efficiency advantages of hydronic heating while meeting sustainability goals. Finally, we'll cover commercial kitchens, where heat pump water heaters can provide reliable domestic hot water for food service operations, meeting health code requirements while lowering carbon emissions.

Attendees will gain practical insights into system design, temperature reset strategies, and equipment options for both space heating and domestic hot water applications.



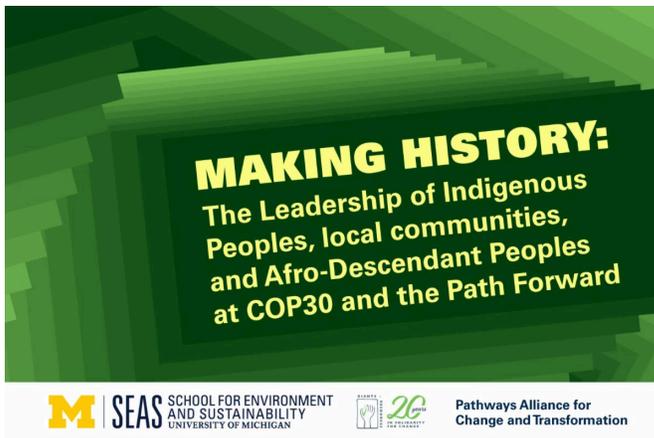
12-1 PM

Plan Now for Renewable Energy Projects before the Federal Commercial Tax Credits/Eligible Pay End
Join the Washtenaw 2030 District, [Solar Faithful](#) & [RE-VOLV](#) to gain an understanding of how to deploy renewable energy systems before the ITC deadlines, including multiple funding options for houses of worship and non-profits.
[Register here](#)



Conquer the Cold Challenge

Community members who participate by logging trips from January 12 through February 12, 2026 can showcase the impact of choosing green transportation options and earn rewards. Conquer the Cold will feature prizes, social media contests, and social events to build community. Virtual Kickoff [RSVP](#): Join to meet fellow participants, forms teams, and share advice on the first day of Conquer the Cold 2026. There will be a short presentation about this year's challenge and prizes, time for Q&A, and opportunities to meet other participants. [Learn more](#)



Making History: The Leadership of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and Afro-Descendant Peoples at COP30 and the Path Forward

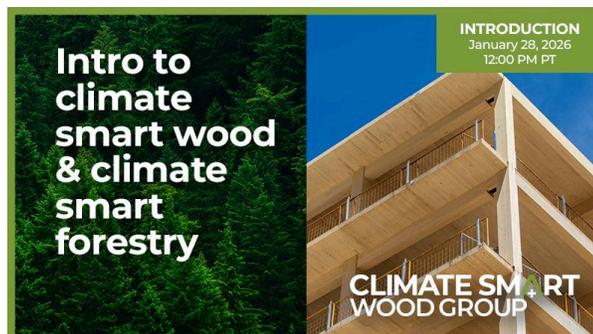
January 14, 9 AM
In person and virtual

[Learn more](#)

Climate Smart Wood Group Webinar Series

January 28 12:00 PT

[Learn more](#)



SEU "Expression of Interest"

The City's new Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) is now accepting "Expressions of Interest" from *businesses and residents who would like to learn more and potentially receive clean energy service from the SEU*. This form will register you for occasional news updates and will help the SEU to prepare deployment plans to bring solar, batteries, geothermal, and other energy services to our community. Please fill out the form [here](#)!

New Members



[Casey's Tavern](#)



[Dan's Houses](#)



Statewide Sponsors

[Matrix Consulting Engineers, Inc](#)



[Episcopal Church of the Incarnation](#)

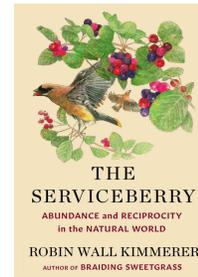
News



Issues of the Environment: Expanding Ann Arbor Public Schools' electric bus fleet | Mohit (Moe) Nagpal

The transition to electric school bus fleets and infrastructure is a consideration and an ongoing journey for some districts across the country. It was a privilege to reflect with the WEMU NPR team on the collaborative work required to make these projects successful.

[Read More](#)



Lessons on Scaling Gift Economies- and How It Can Help the Planet - Inside Climate News

Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of "The Serviceberry," offers ideas rooted in nature for creating sharing economies as a way to bind communities, offer purpose and reduce strain on the Earth ... You might encounter gift economies in your daily life—Buy Nothing groups on Facebook, community fridges where people share food with neighbors or the little free libraries down the street...

[Read More](#)



Order by the MPSC in regard to the Saline Data Center

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the matter of the application of
DTE ENERGY COMPANY for approval of
interconnection procedures and related fees from
Interconnection and Distributed Generation
Standards & 400 W/m² or less

Case No. 1-21402

At the December 5, 2023 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. David C. Noyes, Chair
Hon. Katherine J. Patrick, Commissioner
Hon. Shagun Mehta, Commissioner

ORDER

On April 24, 2023, the Commission issued an order in Case No. 1-20899 adopting the Interconnection and Distributed Generation Standards (also known as the MISO2023 rules). The MISO2023 rules, which are codified at Michigan Administrative Code 400.0000, will become effective on April 25, 2023. Included in the MISO2023 rules is Michigan Administrative Code 400.0002 (Rule 20), which lays out the requirements pertaining to interconnection procedures and forms and directs providers to file an application for approval of interconnection procedures and forms within 120 days of the effective date of the rules. See Rule 20(1). Rule 20(2) provides that the Commission shall issue a final order approving, rejecting, or modifying the proposed interconnection procedures within 180 days of the submission of the application.

The May 18, 2023 order in Case No. 1-21117 (May 18 order) directed the rate-regulated

Regulators approve DTE contracts for Michigan's first hyperscale data center - Bridge Michigan

Regulators tacked on a host of conditions that, they say, protect DTE ratepayers from subsidizing the hefty cost of delivering energy to the facility. Data center opponents expressed outrage, while business leaders cheered the decision.

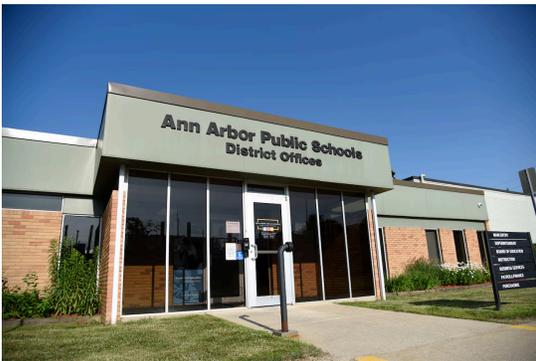
[Read More](#)



Data Centers

Washtenaw County has created this website that curates resources and details on local data center proposals.

[Read More](#)



Ann Arbor schools get half-million-dollar boost to install rooftop solar panels - M Live

The district received its first direct-pay check for tax credits in connection to arrays installed in 2023. Though an expiring federal program, the credits can be applied to more than \$4.6M of new arrays if installed before July 4.

[Read More](#)



Washtenaw 2030 District selected to Help Organizations bring Home Federal Funding for Clean Energy Projects - The Sun Times News

The Michigan Infrastructure Office is getting the word out on the Elective Pay (Direct Pay) Ambassador Program (EPAP). This program is here locally in the Ann Arbor area with the Washtenaw 2030 District, who is acting as the local host organization.

[Read More](#)

Member Resources

Elective Pay Ambassador Program



Tax Credits For Tax Exempt Entities

Elective Pay allows tax-exempt entities to take advantage of federal clean energy tax credits and receive payment for a portion of their clean energy projects that meet the program requirements.

Examples of eligible projects and purchases include:

Solar power
Geothermal & Wind
Energy storage/batteries
EV purchases
EV chargers

Eligible Entities:

Local and Tribal governments
Non-profits
Rural electric co-ops
Houses of worship
Public School Districts
Community Colleges & Public Universities

Do you think you have an eligible project?

Contact Kim Heumann heumannk@2030districts.org Washtenaw 2030 District's Elective Pay Ambassador for Livingston, Jackson, Washtenaw, Hillsdale, Lenawee, Monroe for details and to find out if your **current** or **future** project qualifies.

ICYMI Green Rental Housing Webinar

Learn how to save money, stay compliant, and simplify planning

[Webinar recording](#)



Joe Lange, Senior Energy Analyst
City of Ann Arbor
Office of Sustainability and Innovations
jlange@a2gov.org

Resources:

- [Landlord resource hub](#)
- [Renter education packet](#)
- [Rental Housing Services contact information](#) (reach out to Brandi Lewis)



Commercial EV Charger Program

Applications for the City of Ann Arbor's Commercial EV Charger Program are now live! With the goal of increasing the availability of publicly accessible EV chargers, the Commercial EV Charger Program provides an opportunity for commercial and multifamily property owners in Ann Arbor to receive up to four FREE level 2 EV chargers. To learn more about the program and view the application, visit osi.a2gov.org/evchargerprogram.

Energy Management Grants

Washtenaw 2030 District 2024 Energy Management Grant Program. Member buildings are eligible for grant funding for Energy Audits, Retro Commissioning and Electrification Plans. We support you wherever you are on your carbon neutrality journey. Contact: jculbertson@2030Districts.org if you are interested in learning more.



The Washtenaw 2030 District is funded by our members, DTE, the City of Ann Arbor and EGLE. We are accelerating our work locally because climate change is a serious and immediate threat. Science, our community, and the global market place will not be deterred in

[Membership/
Support Info](#)

accomplishing the energy transformation that is required for our planet's and nation's resilience.



Thank you to our Michigan 2030 Statewide Supporters

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Supporters



Stay up to date with A²ZERO's newsletter and events [HERE](#)



BEACON Newsletter - Architecture 2030

Spotlighting the leaders who are designing built environments that support healthy, vibrant and equitable living, highlighting pockets of the future alive and thriving in the present. [Check it out here!](#)



Washtenaw 2030 District | 115 E Liberty St | Ann Arbor, MI 48104 US

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