



MINUTES

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM EDT

(GO-TO MEETING)

Approved: June 16, 2021.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Terry Townsend, Chair
Chad Smith, Vice Chair
Eileen Jensen
Larry Fisher
Steve Emmerich
Sheila Hayter
Meghan McNulty
Nanette Lockwood
Thomas Reyes
Kinga Porst Hydras
Nate Heffner
Matthew Jesson
Damon McClure
Andrea Phillips
Colin Laisure-Pool
Daryl Collerman
Eduardo Conghos
Sam Hui
George Pantelidis
Gian Modgil
Roger Jones

Members Absent

Tim Ashby
Robert Hoadley
Ryan Williams
Dunstan Macauley
Farooq Mehboob

Guests

Sonya Pouncy
Nick Clements

Staff

Alice Yates
Jeremy Pollack
Emily Porcari
Patricia Ryan
Lilas Pratt

CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Townsend called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. EDT and welcomed the attendees. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

Mr. Townsend noted that he is very proud of everyone on the GAC, and that the committee is getting things done at the speed of business. He noted the GAC's leadership with respect to decarbonization. While it has been a challenging year, we appreciate your diligence and persistence.



ASHRAE CODE OF ETHICS

Mr. Townsend read the summary of the Code of Ethics commitment

ASHRAE Code of Ethics Commitment

In this and all other ASHRAE meetings, we will act with honesty, fairness, courtesy, competence, inclusiveness and respect for others, which exemplify our core values of excellence, commitment, integrity, collaboration, volunteerism and diversity, and we shall avoid all real or perceived conflicts of interests.

(Code of Ethics: <https://www.ashrae.org/about/governance/code-of-ethics>)

(Core Values: <https://www.ashrae.org/about/ashrae-s-core-values>)

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mr. Townsend reviewed the agenda and asked if there were any items or modifications. Ms. Hayter asked to add consideration of a possible MOU with AASA, which was agreed to and considered as agenda item #14c.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 27, 2021 MEETING

Mr. Townsend asked to review the minutes from the last GAC meeting on January 27, 2021.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 27, 2021 as written.

Motion made by Ms. Hayter and seconded by Ms. McNulty.

MOTION PASSED: APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE (CNV). NO OBJECTIONS.

UPDATE ON ACTION ITEMS

Alice reported that all action items are completed with exception of #5, which is ongoing (see Attachment).

REPORT FROM THE ETF

Mr. Townsend provided a report on the work of the ETF, and asked for continuing input from the GAC, including specifics on what is still needed from the government and policy makers.

Ms. Yates noted that the ETF website is continually being updated and to let her know if you have any questions with navigating the website or finding specific information.

REPORT FROM THE TASK FORCE FOR BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

Mr. Townsend reported on the work of the TFBF. He also explained that the next steps for the PPIB on Building Decarbonization are for Tech Council and then ExCom to consider it, and indicated that approval may come by the end of March.

The TFBD has established 12 Working Groups (WG) focused on “Key Areas of Concern.” The WGs are defining their roles, objectives, deliverables and timeline. The WG Leads are in the process of identifying members for their groups; if you have any recommendations to participate on the WGs, send them to Terry. Alice will distribute the WG list to the GAC members.

Mr. Townsend also noted that the TFBD meetings will have an “open mic” session on a monthly basis, if you want to share anything with the task force.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND MBO STATUS REPORTS (ATTACHMENT)

A summary of the status of each of the MBOs is found as an Attachment to the minutes.

Executive Subcommittee

MBO #1 - Chad Smith reported that the goal is to finalize the vision statement, goals, and objectives by the annual meeting.

MBO #2 – In Mr. Ashby’s absence, Mr. Reyes noted that the work is evolving and will have a more detailed report at the annual meeting.

MBO #4 – Mr. Jones reported that the work has been challenging, and if you know of any good contacts with code officials, to send them to him. Mr. Jones will be meeting with the ICC’s Mr. Guy Tomberlin today.

Policy and Programs Subcommittee

Mr. Hoadley could not attend the meeting and submitted a written report (see Attachment).

Member Mobilization Subcommittee

Ms. Phillips reported on the status of Government Outreach Events, a summary of which is provided in the Attachment. Ms. Phillips reminded the RVCs that they should contact their Chapter Chairs and ask them to fill out the reporting form for each event. She noted the virtual events have been a “mixed bag,” with some going on very well, some not at all. It is the busy time of year for those in the states, hopefully more city, local and state events will be planned

MBO #3 – They are working on several ideas, including an “office hours,” which is anticipated to be held every two months for 30-60 minutes that will be open to anyone in ASHRAE who interested in government affairs. They are also considering adding a training seminar to the annual meeting for anyone who is interested in government affairs. The status is about 60% complete.

MBO#7 – This MBO is completed. Emily has identified 2 reports from Fiscal Note that have been used effectively by the GAC. There has been a good reception for these tools for planning outreach events.

Global Affairs Subcommittee

The Global Affairs Subcommittee has held 3 meetings in September, November and January.

MBO #5 - Already obtained information from training center on government officials and continuing our contacts to provide to RVC's. Still working on updating the list of international organizations.

MBO #8 - Collected information from RVCs and trying to organize and make summaries and put on webpage – still working to collect more information from different countries.

Rules Subcommittee

Mr. Smith reported that there are no motions at this time from the Rules Subcommittee. The next steps for this subcommittee will be to review the Rules of the Board and the Resource Manual.

Nominating Committee

Ms. Hayter reported the subcommittee has completed its duties for the society year.

GAC OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NAMED AFTER DAVE PALTY

Mr. Smith explained that he, Terry and other GAC members want to honor Dave Palty and remember his amazing work in ASHRAE government outreach. Dave was a member of the GAC and RVC for Region X, who unexpectedly passed away a year ago. One idea was to rename the existing society GAC award in honor of Dave. However, this group believes that the best way to honor Dave would be to offer an award from the GAC itself, which would be an informal award that is given each year by the GAC to recognize outstanding overall effort on the GAC committee. It is envisioned the award would be judged by a 3-person committee made up of the Chair, Vice Chair and GAC staff director. The individual would be recognized at the GAC committee meeting during the Annual Meeting and will receive a certificate recognizing their outstanding efforts over the course of the year to promote and advocate on behalf of ASHRAE.

PLANNING FOR SY2021-22

Mr. Smith reported that as has been done in past years, an evaluation of the GAC's work over the past year will be conducted; surveys will be sent out in the next week or so, and Jeremy is coordinating those surveys.

The evaluation is an effort to try to improve the work of the committee for the upcoming year, and it will serve as significant input to the Planning Meeting of the GAC Executive Subcommittee, which is expected to take place in late April or early May.

Alice noted that every one of these reviews is read and GAC cares what you write. Please fill out when you get it and thank you very much.

REPORTS FROM REGIONAL VICE CHAIRS

- Region I – Mr. Reyes reported for Region I.
- Region II – Mr. Hoadley was not in attendance, and provided a written report (see Attachment)
- Region III – Ms. Porst Hydras reported for Region III.

- Region IV – Mr. Ashby was not in attendance and due to poor health cannot provide a report.
- Region V – Mr. Heffner reported for Region V.
- Region VI – Mr. Jesson reported for Region VI.
- Region VII – Mr. Williams was not in attendance.
- Region VIII – Mr. McClure reported for Region VIII.
- Region IX – Ms. Phillips reported for Region IX.
- Region X – Mr. Laisure-Pool was not in attendance.
- Region XI – Mr. Collerman reported for Region XI.
- Region XII – Mr. Conghos reported for Region XII.
- Region XIII – Mr. Hui reported for Region XIII.
- Region XIV – Mr. Pantelidis reported for Region XIV.
- Region at Large – Mr. Modgil reported for the Region-at-Large.

REPORTS

- ExO Report: Mr. Macauley was not in attendance because he was in officer training.
- Communications Coordinator Report: Mr. Jones reported that he distributed his report, which covered up to winter meeting; another report will be sent that will cover activities from January to Spring.
- Technology Council Representative Report: Mr. Emmerich provided a detailed report, as well as a written report (see Attachment)
- Members Council Representative Report: Ms. Jensen provided a report, and also provided a written summary:

The Manual subcommittee of the Regions Operations subcommittee to Members Council, met March 10th to review proposed changes to the Manual of Chapter Operations (MCO). The proposed changes from the GAC to address competing chapter and Society applications for government funding opportunities, **were reviewed and accepted as proposed**. The next step is for these changes to be reviewed and voted on by the full Regions Operations subcommittee at their next meeting, which is expected to take place sometime in May or June. She also reminded the GAC that any possible ROB changes that might come out of the GAC would need to be presented to Members Council.
- Pub-Ed Council Representative Report: Mr. Fisher provided a written report (see Attachment) and also summarized the highpoints verbally.

NEW BUSINESS

- NEBB Collaboration: Mr. Townsend wanted the GAC members to know that he is the ASHRAE liaison with NEBB, and has been involved with NEBB for 17 years. If you want information about their standards or other information, please reach out to Terry.
- Michigan Grassroots Report: Ms. Sonya Pouncy provided a wonderful presentation about her work in getting information out from the ETF. The presentation was provided on Basecamp, and is also provided as an Attachment. Thank you, Sonya!
- AASA MOU: Ms. Hayter, Ms. Lockwood, and Ms. McNulty believe that a stronger relationship with the School Superintendents Association would be beneficial to help share ETF guidance on schools and other ASHRAE technical materials. An MOU with the AASA may be the best way forward in forming this relationship. (Motion with background and fiscal impacts is provided as an attachment.)

MOTION: That the GAC recommends that ASHRAE leadership enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AASA, The School Superintendents Association.

Motion made by Sheila Hayter and seconded by Eileen Jenson.

MOTION PASSED: APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE (CNV). NO OBJECTIONS

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Townsend announced the next meeting will be at the Annual Virtual meeting; a date and time should be determined soon.

ADJOURN

Mr. Chad Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Jensen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Townsend adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. EDT

Respectfully submitted,
Alice M. Yates, Staff Liaison



ACTION ITEMS

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Last Updated: March 9, 2021

#	Action	Assigned To	Due Date	Status	C/O
1	Follow-up with Ayah to get a list of government officials who received training at the Global Training Center.	Jeremy Pollack	ASAP	The Global Trainings Center sent over a list of government officials who attended webinars or trainings in 2020. The GASC is now deliberating on the best method to engage with officials who attend these types of events going forward.	C
2	Send the revised MBO to Members Council.	Alice Yates	ASAP	Emailed.	C
3	Send PPIBs and policy positions of interest to the Building EQ Committee.	Emily Porcari	ASAP	Emailed.	C
4	Send email concerning GAC award nominations.	Emily Porcari	ASAP	Emailed.	C
5	Provide recommendations on the EHC Emerging Issue briefs through EHC Liaison Meghan McNulty.	GAC Members	Spring 2021	Still in progress, nothing final to report yet. Meghan attended the GAC PPSC and is working with Nick Clemens to stay updated on EHC.	O
6	Post on the GAC Basecamp the report from Ms. Samantha Slater of AHRI.	Alice Yates	ASAP		C

Status Update on GAC MBOs SY2020- 2021

Last Updated: March 15, 2021

MBO	Subcommittee Assigned	Status
1. Develop a 2030 vision statement for the GAC, accompanied with goals and objectives.	Executive Subcommittee	An Ad-Hoc subcommittee for this MBO has been formed, and held a kick-off meeting. Members are listed below: Chad Smith (Team Lead) Meghan McNulty Colin-Laisure Pool Nannette Lockwood Gian Modgil Terry Townsend The goal is to finalize the vision statement, goals and objectives by the Annual Meeting (Summer 2021).
2. Establish a GAC Advisory Board made up of senior staff from various government bodies; this group would advise ASHRAE on what technical resources they need.	Executive Subcommittee	Chair Terry Townsend appointed 3 members to serve on a team to address this MBO, and has appointed Tim Ashby to lead: • Tim Ashby (Lead) • Colin Laisure-Pool • Thomas Reyes A draft of the objectives of the Advisory Board, characteristics of members to participate and a proposed name change have been discussed. Chair Tim Ashby has reached out to all of the RVCs with a message to send to their chapter chairs to solicit nominations to serve on the advisory board.
3. Develop a Government Affairs Training webinar and/or event for members outside the committee to increase participation. Develop chapter-to-chapter training to learn from exemplary chapters who have been successful in their government outreach, including sharing why it is beneficial for the ASHRAE members involved.	Member Mobilization	• A meeting of the MBO #3 Ad-Hoc group was held on March 3. Colin Laisure-Pool will be handing off the lead on this MBO to Meghan McNulty. • The plan for the training webinar/event is to hold “office hours” quarterly where Chapter Chairs to check in and ask questions. This is planned to start in April. • Other options being considered include preparation of a presentation of a quick

MBO	Subcommittee Assigned	Status
		5-10 minute slide show regarding basics of government outreach that may be posted on the website and a longer presentation at the annual meeting for interested parties to sign up to learn about government outreach to try to appeal to larger audiences than chapter GAC chairs and other chapter leadership.
4. Develop a general training for code officials, which could be used by chapters globally.	Executive Subcommittee	Chair Terry Townsend formed an implementation team, to be led by Roger Jones on this MBO. Team members include George Pantelidis (RVC, Region XIV). Roger is working to recruit others, but those asked are either too busy or non-responsive; any recommendations for members to assist with this MBO would be welcome! (A couple of suggestions have been sent to Roger, who is reaching out to them.) Roger is planning to hold a discussion with several code officials (when identified) to learn how ASHRAE can be of use to them, and has developed a series of questions for this listening session.
5. Identify events attended by government officials at which ASHRAE members can attend for the purpose of outreach and advocacy.	Global Affairs	• Subcommittee members will work with the GTC to identify government officials that attend training and webinars. • The Subcommittee received the list from the GTC and is now deciding on an outreach plan. • Members have identified international organizations that host events of interest to ASHRAE members.
6. Identify ASHRAE resources and develop advocacy materials that can help state, provincial, federal, and global governmental entities reach their 2030/2050 goals	Policy & Programs	• Subcommittee members have identified at least one goal for their region. Goals need to be reviewed before materials or positions are developed. • A list of goals has been compiled by ASHRAE staff in a spreadsheet. Subcommittee members will add to the list by end of October, focusing on elements where ASHRAE resources can help.

MBO	Subcommittee Assigned	Status
		•Based on a review of goals, it was decided, ASHRAE should provide more information and materials on Decarbonization. •ASHRAE is creating a PPIB on Decarbonization and the subcommittee has recommended the development of a PD.
7. Further develop communication tools using FiscalNote software to improve information between Society and Chapters.	Member Mobilization	This MBO is effectively complete, as the information about the various reports available from FiscalNote has been shared with RVCs and they have shared with Chapter Chairs. To date, reports and/or legislator profiles have been generated from FiscalNote for Arizona, Texas, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Nebraska, and they have been well-received as useful tools to support outreach events.
8. Identify in which countries outside the U.S. ASHRAE Standards have been adopted or used as guidance; document 2-3 examples of how ASHRAE standards have been used globally and what types of advocacy were used which could help with such efforts in other locations.	Global Affairs	•The subcommittee is exploring if a webpage should be created that list what standards are adopted in each country. •The Subcommittee has voted to expand the MBO to include “Standards, guidelines, and resources.” •ASHRAE’s GA staff reached out to Tech and Pub Ed staff to see if they had a list of countries that use or reference ASHRAE standards, guidelines, and resources. There is no formal list at this time. •ASHRAE 90.1 might be adopted in the UAE. It was reported that Hong Kong has adopted 90.1 and Sri Lanka is looking at it with the World Bank. 90.1 is mostly adopted in India while Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have adopted 90.2.

MBO	Subcommittee Assigned	Status
9. Identify any issue for which a Position Document should be developed or for which an existing ASHRAE PD should be revised per the ROB (1.300.002) in order to be responsive to government inquiries and needs for which ASHRAE currently doesn't have the relevant information. Before any issue or addition is recommended, work with pertinent ASHRAE GAC Council representative(s) and/or liaison(s) to confirm the information isn't already being developed, potentially as a different type of resource such as a guidance document.	Policy & Programs	• Subcommittee members have identified several areas for new PDs and updated PDs. Subcommittee is also looking at this from an international perspective • Recommends a PD on Decarbonization. • Recommends the PD on Environmental Tobacco Smoke should be amended and expanded with regards to cannabis smoke and electronic nicotine delivery. • Recommends the PD on Indoor Air Quality should be amended to make further reference to natural ventilation systems in emerging economies, and provide further guidance and design guides specific to natural and traditional ventilation systems. • Discussing wildfires, although EHC may be addressing that issue.

Policy and Programs Subcommittee

Chair Report

ASHRAE Government Affairs Committee

17 March 2021

The PPSC has met once since the previous GAC Committee meeting in January. We held a meeting on 10 March 2021 to review subcommittee work

Our subcommittee MBOs have been deemed complete. MBO #6 (Identify ASHRAE resources and develop advocacy materials that can help state, provincial, federal, and global governmental entities reach their 2030/2050 goals) has been completed, and we have previously submitted several motions to the full committee for consideration, all of which passed and have moved on. MBO #9 (Identify any issue for which a Position Document should be developed or for which an existing ASHRAE PD should be revised...) was completed prior to the previous GAC meeting, and the subcommittee provided motions for position documents to be both created and amended.

Our PPIB work continues, and we have four PPIBs to finalize this week. The subcommittee has been liaising with several committees outside GAC to ensure the best information is stated in our briefs, and we have since received comment with respect to our inquiries. The finalized PPIBs will be voted on by letter ballot next week (week of March 22), then passing on to GAC Executive Subcommittee and then the full committee.

TRACKING GOVERNMENT OUTREACH DAYS SY2020-2021

PROGRESS CHART

	Target	Held	Scheduled	Planned	Delta
City/Local	22	5	0	1	-16
State	25	5	1	3	-16
U.S. Congressional	16	5	0	17	6
Global	15	18	0	1	4
In-Person	33	7	0	13	-13
Virtual	45	26	1	9	-9
Total	78	33	1	22	-22

Note: Delta assumes that ALL planned and scheduled events are held (negative indicates that we are behind the goal).

SY20-21 SUMMARY TOTALS (as reported to date):	Number of Attendees (ASHRAE Members)	Number of Meetings	Number of Events
Local	55	5	5
State	12	10	5
Federal	9	5	5
Global	105	26	18
TOTAL:	181	46	33

In Comparison

PREVIOUS YEAR (SY 2019-2020)	Number of Attendees (ASHRAE Members)	Number of Meetings	Number of Events
State and Local	191	138	27
Federal	32	10	10
Global	48	17	13
TOTAL:	271	165	50

SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENT OUTREACH EVENTS SY2020-2021								
LOCAL	Location	Date	Region	Number of Attendees (ASHRAE Members)	Number of Meetings	Govt Outreach Form Submitted?	Note if Virtual	Comments
Held	Gwinnett County Board of Education, Georgia	8/20/2020	4	1	1	yes	virtual	Testimony before the School Board
	Houston	9/10/2020	8	50	1	yes	virtual	meeting with Houston Building officials and AIA re: energy code enforcement
	St. Paul	October	6	1	1	no	virtual	meeting with City of St. Paul's Chief Resilience Officer
	Atlanta Regional Commission	9/29/2020	4	1	1	yes	virtual	meeting with the Atlanta Regional Commission
	City of Milwaukee	2/3/2020	6	2	1	yes	virtual	conversation about how ASHRAE can help the City of Milwaukee
	Total Local Held:	5		55	5		5	
Scheduled								
	Total Local Scheduled:	0		0	0		0	
Planned								
	Total Local Planned:	1		1	1		1	
Planned								
	Course for Southeast Wisconsin Utilities	upcoming	6	1	1	no	yes	COVID-related training for SE Wisconsin utilities- the expected audience is 50-100 facility operations and maintenance personnel
	Total Local Planned:	1		1	1		1	
STATE								
Held	Michigan State Dept. of Education	8/11/2020	5	1	1	yes	virtual	met with education officials re: ASHRAE's COVID-19 guidance
	Michigan State Dept. of Education	8/25/2020	5	3	1	yes	virtual	met with education officials re: ASHRAE's COVID-19 guidance
	Virginia Del. Dawn Adams, District 68	1/7/2021	3	2	1	no	virtual	Richmond Chapter member met with Del. Adams to introduce ASHRAE and share our COVID-19 resources.
	Virginia Sen. Hashmi, District 10	1/11/2021	3	1	1	no	virtual	Richmond Chapter member will meet with Sen. Hashmi to introduce ASHRAE and share our COVID-19 resources.
	Nebraska state senators	2/25/2021	9	5	6	yes	virtual	Discussed various proposed bills
	Total State Held:	5		12	10		5	
Scheduled								
	Total State Scheduled:	1		0	0		1	
Planned								
	Saskatchewan Provincial Government	early 2021						
	West Virginia	early 2021					virtual	
	Arkansas	TBD	8 (maybe 7)				virtual	meetings with code officials
	Total State Planned:	3		0	0		2	
FEDERAL								
Held	Sen. Martin Heinrich, New Mexico	8/11/2020	9	4	1	no	virtual	
	MP Jenica Atwin, Fredericton (CAN)	9/21/2020	2	1	1	no	virtual	
	Sen. Joe Manchin, West Virginia	10/30/2020		1	1	no	virtual	Held with other orgs
	Sen. Tina Smith, Minnesota	12/4/2020		1	1	no	virtual	
	Rep. Carolyn Bourdeaux	2/16/2021		2	1	no	virtual	
	Total Federal Held:	5		9	5		5	
Scheduled								
	Total Federal Scheduled:	0		0	0		0	
Planned								
	Rep. Ilhan Omar	March		1	1		1	
	Rep. Hinson (IA)	March		1	1			
	Rep. Rush (IL)	March		1	1			
	Rep. Cindy Axne	March		1	1			
	Senator Ernst	March		1	1			
	Senator Mark Kelly	March		1	1		1	
	Senator Richard Burr	April		1	1		1	
	Rep. John Katko	April		1	1		1	
	Senator James Lankford	March		4	1		1	

	Rep. Kurt Schrader	June		1	1			
	Senator John Hickenlooper	April		1	1			
	Senator Raphael Warnock	March		1	1			
	Rep. Carolyn Bourdeaux	March		1	1			
	Senator Alex Padilla	June		1	1			
	Rep. Sam Graves	April		1	1			
	Sen. Shelley Capito	April		1	1			
	Rep. Rosa DeLauro	April		1	1			
	Total Federal Planned:	17		20	17		5	
GLOBAL								
Held	Halton District School Board, Toronto, Canada	8/13/2020	2	5	1	yes	Virtual	answered questions from school board about Filtration, Ventilation, CO2 levels
	India (Chandigarh Chapter) - Panel Discussion on "Energy Efficiency in Commercial & Residential Buildings"	8/14/2020	RAL	3	1	No	Virtual	Panelists represented several government agencies and municipalities. The event was attended by more than 250 professionals.
	York Catholic District School Board, Toronto, Canada	8/26/2020	2	1	1	yes	Virtual	Discussion about ASHRAE reopening guidelines, filtration, Humidity, Temp, CO2, Air Changes
	Ontario School Boards, Canada	9/2/2020	2	6	1	yes	Virtual	130 total participants; a follow up document was sent with Chapter's responses to 55 questions
	New Brunswick/PEI	9/21/2020	2	1	1	yes	Virtual	Member of Parliament Atwin was very interested to discuss building energy efficiency.
	Government of Goa, India	9/26/2020	RAL	1	1	no		received thank you note from government
	Windsor and London	10/20/2020	14	46	1	yes	virtual	officials from Windsor-Essex as well as London and its surrounding areas
	Toronto Chapter	10/27/2020	2	4	1	yes	Virtual	Met with Greening Health Care Climate Challenge Network re: Operating rooms, anterooms, other adjacent rooms, with respect to differential pressures.
	Toronto Chapter	11/6/2020	2	2	1	yes	Virtual	Met with Toronto District School Board UHN, University Health Network, Toronto Community Housing, 3 Universities.
	Ecuador	11/6/2020	12	6	1	no		Met with Ministry of Production and UNIDO
	Vancouver, Canada	11/10/2020	11	1	1	yes	virtual	Met with Member of Parliament Paul Manly. Meeting was an introduction to ASHRAE and the ETF.
	Paraguay, Ministry of Sustainable Development	12/3/2020	12	4	1	yes	virtual	Discussed reducing GHG emissions from refrigerants.
	Argentina Chapter, Buenos Aires Section	12/9/2020	12	4	1	yes	Virtual	discussed systems for Air Treatment in Health Care Facilities
	Argentina Chapter, Bolivia Section	12/30/2020	12	1	1	yes	virtual	discussed Energy Efficiency - Air Conditioners - Specifications and labeling
	Queens Park, Canada	2/2/2021	11	14	9	yes	virtual	Met with MPPs. Joint outreach with HRAI.
	Toronto Chapter	2/10/2021	2	2	1	yes	Virtual	met with MP David Piccini, along with HRAI and ORAC (Ontario Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Contractors)
	Goa, India	2/18/2021	RAL	3	1	no	in-person	Met with Goa Chief Minister to discuss 90.1
	Toronto Chapter	2/19/2021	2	1	1	yes	Virtual	met with Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, along with HRAI and ORAC; asked him to consider BEQ for existing govt buildings
	Total Global Held:	18		105	26		16	
Scheduled								
	Total Global Scheduled:	0		0	0		0	
							1	
Planned	Chief Minister(Head of State), Govt. of Goa	November?	RAL	1	1		1	
	Total Global Planned:	1		1	1		1	

ASHRAE Government Affairs Committee

Region II RVC Report

17 March 2021

The Ontario chapters in Region II have been very busy, and have met with 11 Members of the Ontario Provincial Parliament (equivalent to state legislature) in February and March

Ontario chapters joined with HRAI on February 8 for a virtual government outreach day. Members met with eight MPPs from all four parties represented in the provincial parliament.

John Cusato (Toronto Chapter) followed up with three more virtual meetings, with MPPs David Piccini and Jeremy Roberts on February 10. He also had a virtual meeting with Jeff Yurek, the Ontario Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks on February 19.

Halifax Chapter (Tom Kendell GAC Chair) has been building a relationship with provincial Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing with respect to ventilation improvements. Contact within provincial government contacted local chapter for information, and chapter officials have been corresponding and providing ASHRAE guides.

Rob Hoadley (Region RVC) was approached by Presidential Member Bill Bahnfleth with respect to a request for information from Infrastructure Canada, a federal government ministry. Rob and Bill met virtually with team from department on February 2 to provide information with respect to ventilation upgrades and COVID-19 mitigation in buildings.

Report from Technology Council Liaison – Steven Emmerich

1. The three proposed Position Document recommendations from GAC will go forward for review. The recommendation for a PD on decarbonization will be referred to the Decarbonization Task Force, and the recommendations for revisions to the IAQ and ETS PDs were referred to EHC.
2. The following additional PD actions were approved:
 - a. Chair appointed and roster approved for the Infectious Aerosols PD.
 - b. Chair appointed for Filtration and Air Cleaning PD and PD reaffirmed.
3. The Document Review Subcommittee is planning a short training for cognizant committees on how PDs travel through the ASHRAE process.
4. The following Special Project Publications are expected:
 - a. SP 143 AEDG for Multifamily Buildings: Zero Energy – Publication Spring 2021
 - b. SP 144 Designing for Operational Excellence Guide – Publication Spring 2021
 - c. SP 145 Epidemic Preparedness White Paper (Residential)- Publication June 2021
5. Technology Council approved a Standards Committee recommendation to the Board ExCom for the formation of new standing committee named International Standards Interaction Committee reporting to Technology Council. The primary role of this committee would be to harness the technical resources of ASHRAE to influence international standards and not deal with the already defined process that is overseen by Standards Committee. An International Standards Activity Task Force was created to determine where this ends up in context of a planned Society restructuring.
6. The interim guidance developed by Guideline Project Committee 44P, titled Planning Framework for Protecting Commercial Building Occupants from Smoke During Wildfire Events, has been published to the ASHRAE website at <https://tinyurl.com/yxyuqh72>. This document is already being considered for use by GSA, CA ARB, Oregon Codes and others.
7. A draft Research Strategic Plan was developed by RAP and distributed to Tech Council for review.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Full GAC Meeting

January 22, 2021
9 a.m. – 11 a.m. EST

Report from Council Liaison
Publishing and Education Council – Larry Fisher

1. Both volunteers and staff have been active in partnering with Michigan State University and The Ohio State University in response to a funding opportunity with US DOE for workforce training.
2. Per ASHRAE's recent MOU and umbrella agreement with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), webinars and courses on content developed by ASHRAE's Epidemic Task Force (ETF) have been presented to NYSERDA audiences, with more planned and new proposals in the works on those and other topics. Alice Yates, staff Director of Government Affairs and liaison to GAC, can also speak to some of these efforts with which she has been heavily involved.
3. ASHRAE is also a participant in DOE's Better Buildings Workforce Accelerator program, which is designed to increase the quantity, quality, diversity, and productivity of today's building energy efficiency workforce. This three-year effort will support the vision of the U.S. building workforce as a global leader in delivering quality efficiency products and services to American residents and businesses, thereby increasing energy affordability across the economy. Over the next three years ASHRAE will provide five (5) in-person and/or online training events on designing, constructing, maintaining and operating high-performance buildings. The training will be based on ASHRAE's *High-Performance Buildings Simplified* textbook and other educational resources. Training will be made available at reduced cost to participants identified as underrepresented or occupying roles with skill gaps. The pricing level will be determined depending on sponsorships or subsidies available.
4. Training activities have also been conducted for the Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC), with whom we have a long record of cooperation, and recently with the South Carolina Energy Office.
5. Professional Development staff are also in communication with Region XIV regarding HVAC Design Trainings and other courses tailored to and timed for the region.
6. GTC (Global Training Center) Update – Briefly, GTC is making ends meet with its conversion from in-person to virtual meetings. Although fees had to be reduced, and programs had to be converted to virtual, programs for the first half of the year did well.

GTC has been sending names of training attendees to ASHRAE staff for determining if government employees are attending so GAC can reach out to them and invite them to share their needs or to join ASHRAE.

Year (Conference Locations)	Winter	Annual	Online	In-Company	Chapter	Industry	HVAC I	HVAC II	GTC	TOTAL*
2020-2021 (Virtual/Phoenix) To date Jan2021	Virtual		395**	891	300	1,008	123	30	1,488	4,235
2019-20 (Orlando/Virtual)	1,138	Virtual	752***	665	200	42	312	250	597	3,956

End of Report



Detroit Chapter



Western Michigan Chapter

The Joint Michigan ASHRAE Chapters' COVID-19 Task Force

ESTABLISHED IN MARCH 2020 BY

Sonya M. Pouncy, CEM, CMVP, LEED-AP

with

Kelly Sugg, P.E.
2019 – 2020 President
Detroit Chapter

Bradley S. Herbeck, LEED-AP
2019 – 2020 Vice President
Detroit Chapter

Andrew P. Bosse, P.E.
2020 – 2021 President
Western Michigan Chapter

Jonathan Rumohr, P.E.
2020 – 2021 Vice President
Western Michigan Chapter

Our Guide

MISSION

To serve humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, refrigeration and their related fields.

Coordinating with Staff

Society Staff Contacts

Jeremy Pollack, Manager of Federal Gov't Affairs

Emily Porcari, Manager of State and Local Gov't Affairs



Letter Writing Campaign



- Governor
- Directors of the State Departments of:
 - Health & Human Services
 - Education
 - Building & Construction Codes
 - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
 - Labor and Economic Opportunity/COVID-19 Workplace Safety
- Health Officers of all 83 Michigan Counties
- City of Detroit
 - Health Officer
 - Buildings, Safety, Engineering & Environmental Department
- Local Chapters of
 - AIA
 - IFMA
 - BOMA
 - 2030

Recommendations

Recommendations for HVAC and Domestic Water Systems when Re-Opening Facilities after Periods of COVID-19 Dormancy

For additional support in Michigan, contact us at www.detroitashrae.org or www.ashraewestmi.org



Pathogens, like COVID-19, that cause infectious disease are transmitted from primary hosts to secondary hosts by several different routes, including as bioaerosols. Within buildings, pathogen spread can be impacted by airflow patterns. Thus, operating HVAC equipment can impact pathogen transmission. Ventilation and filtration provided by HVAC equipment can help reduce airborne concentrations of bioaerosols. This document offers recommended operational and maintenance practices through which HVAC systems can help decrease building occupants' exposure to infectious bioaerosols.

In light of available information and accepted industry practices, the COVID-19 task force members of the Detroit and Western Michigan Chapters of ASHRAE have used their best efforts in the development of these general recommendations for the benefit of owners, managers, and occupants of buildings, except hospitals, in Michigan. However, we do not guarantee, verify, or assure that the safety or performance of any products, components, or systems, tested, installed, or operated in accordance with these recommendations will be free from risk.

Information on COVID-19 is emerging and rapidly evolving. The suggestions in this document should be considered along with the specific characteristics and requirements of your building as well as all owner and occupant criteria, and all applicable state orders, regulations and advisories.

General Recommended Actions for All Equipment and Systems

- Assemble or establish your facility management team, including: in-house staff and external subject matters experts such as design engineers, equipment specialists, and TAB contractors.
- Review and update, or if necessary develop, your current building management plans for water and HVAC systems, including sequences of operation and setpoints for normal and emergency conditions such as epidemics and pandemics.
- Document all changes to the existing operating protocols.
- Establish a date to review temporary procedures and return to normal operations.
- Verify that all facility operators and management personnel are aware of all changes in operating procedures and have received appropriate training.
- Advise building occupants that temporary changes are in effect, that the building may be slightly less comfortable, and that they should (1) advise building operating staff of any issues or concerns, (2) dress appropriately, and (3) not use ceiling fans, personal fans, or space heaters with internal fans.
- Monitor, track, and if possible, trend impacts of temporary operating procedures, including increases to costs for operations and maintenance.
- At the appointed time, review impacts of temporary procedures and determine whether to return to previous protocols & setpoints.
- Document any additional changes in operating protocols & setpoints and communicate them to the building operations team.
- For additional guidance, see:
 - ASHRAE Position Document on Airborne Infectious Aerosols
 - ASHRAE Standard 180: Standard Practice for Inspection and Maintenance of Commercial Building HVAC Systems
 - ASHRAE Standard 62.1: Ventilation for Acceptable Indoor Air Quality
 - ASHRAE Standard 55: Thermal Environmental Conditions for Human Occupancy
 - ASHRAE Standard 188: Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems
 - ASHRAE Guideline 12: Managing the Risk of Legionellosis Associated with Building Water Systems
 - ASHRAE Guideline 29: Guideline for the Risk Management of Public Health and Safety in Buildings
 - ASHRAE Guideline 1.2: Technical Requirements for the Commissioning Process for Existing HVAC&R Systems and Assemblies
 - "Developing a Water Management Program to Reduce Legionella Growth & Spread in Buildings" by the U.S. CDC
 - NSF Protocol P453: Cooling Tower Water Systems – Treatment, Operation, and Maintenance to Prevent Legionellosis
 - CTI Guideline 159: Practices to Reduce the Risk of Legionellosis from Evaporative Heat Rejection Equipment Systems
- For assistance, consult your local engineer specializing in HVAC and/or water systems, water treatment specialist, and/or equipment manufacturer's representative.

Acronyms:
HVAC- Heating Ventilating and Air-Conditioning
IAQ- Indoor Air Quality

Pg 1 of 6

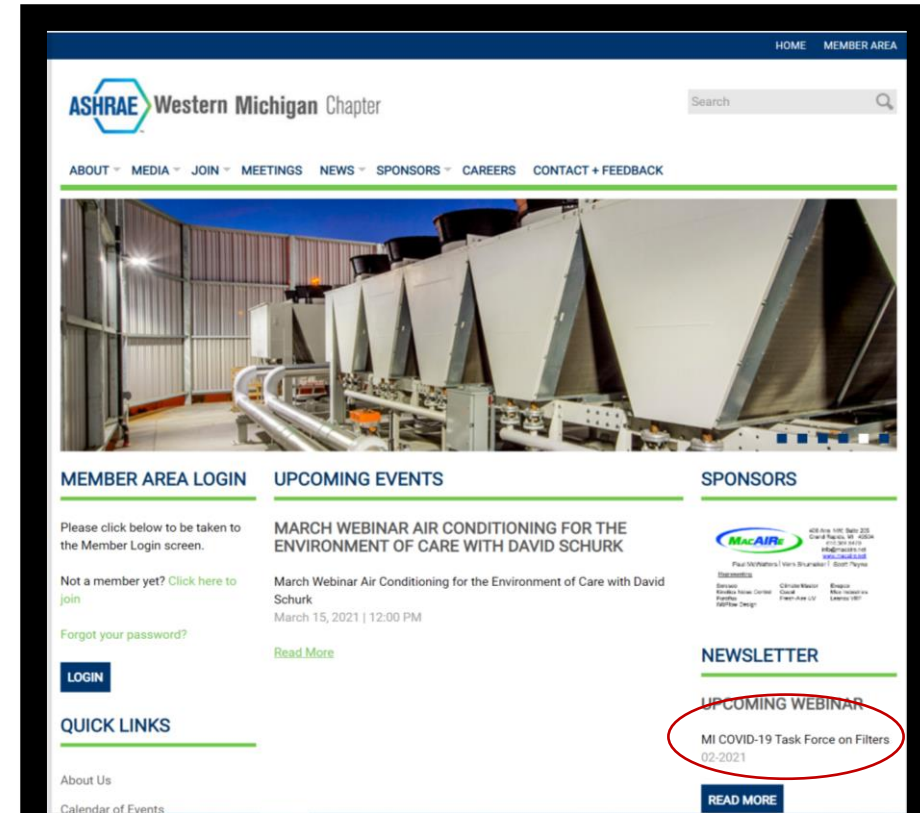
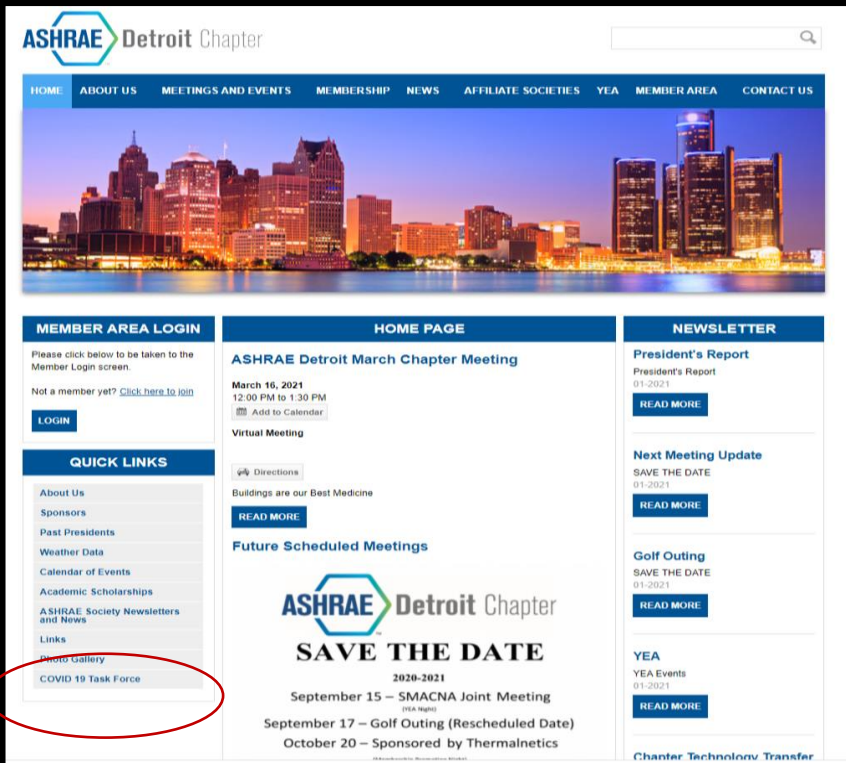
11/25/2020

For additional guidance, visit:
www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/resources

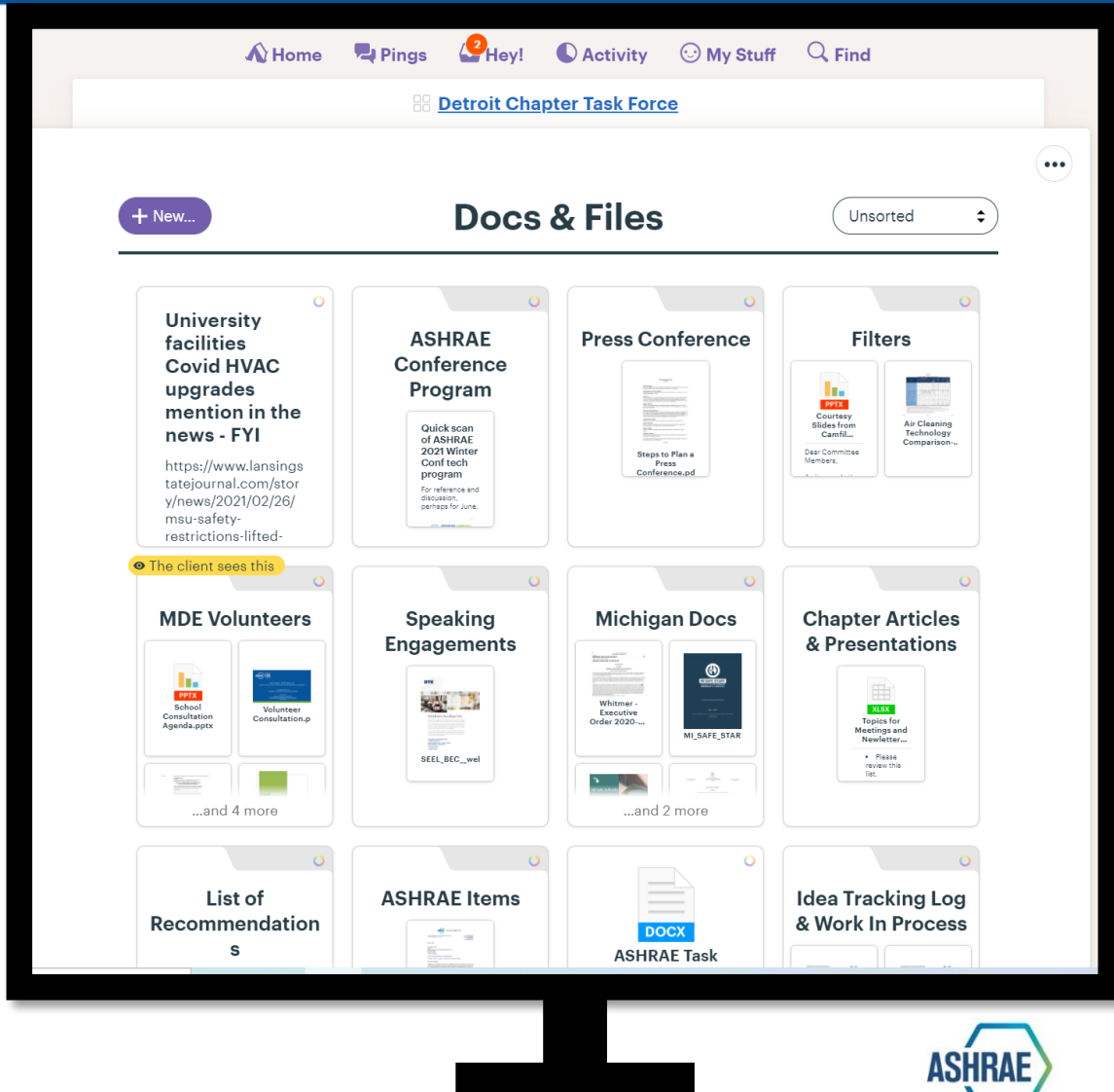
- Concise 6 page document
- Covers
 - Domestic Water
 - HVAC Systems
- Recommended setpoints
- Cautionary Notes
- Launched 6/202; Updated 11/2020
- Available for download from www.detroitashrae.org/covid_19_taskforce

Chapter Websites

- JMAC-CTF Recommendations
- MI K-12 HVAC Assistance Program
- Webinars
- Shared Newsletter Articles
- Other Resources
 - Society
 - CDC
 - MiOSHA
 - State of Michigan



Basecamp



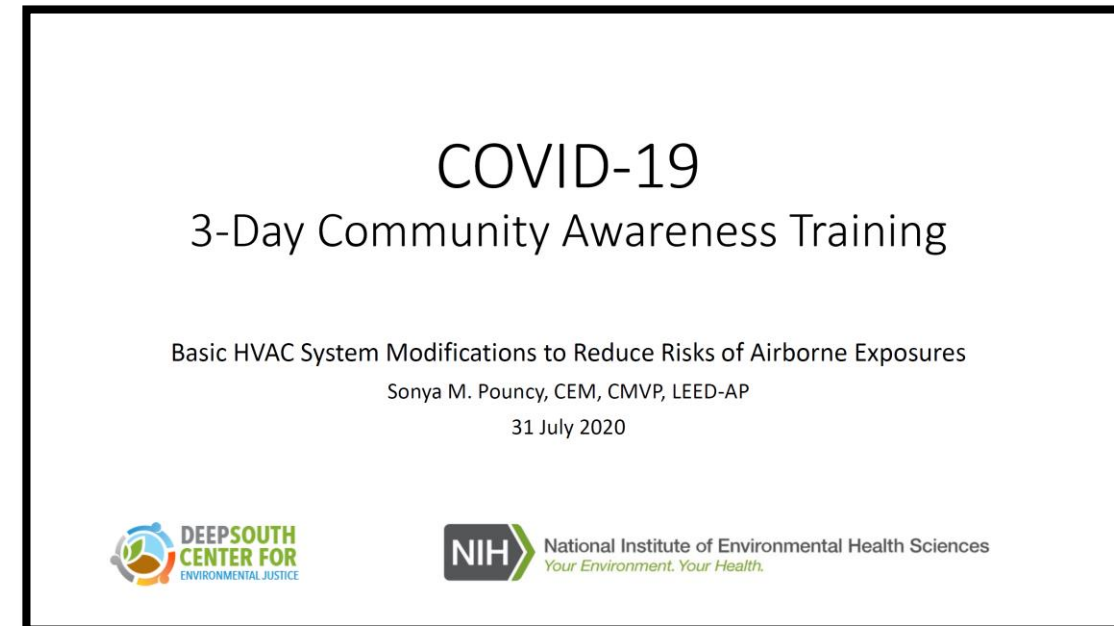
- 23 Committee Members
- 18 Volunteers for the MI K-12 HVAC Assistance Program
- Includes staff and GAC RVC

Connecting with Others

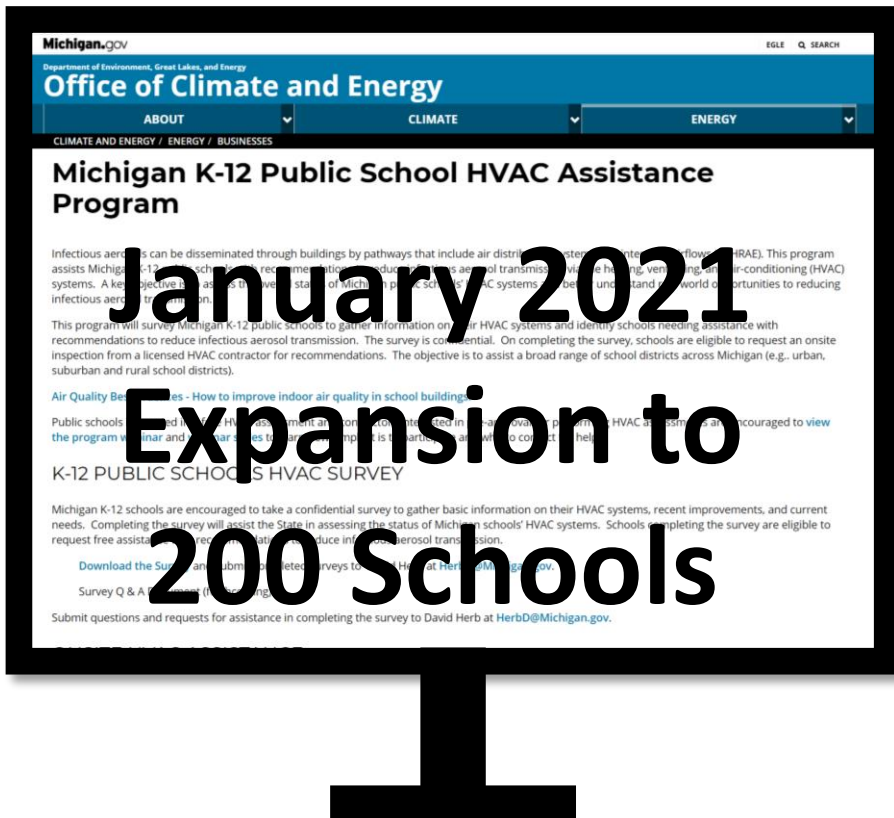


This was not an ASHRAE presentation. This was presentation for Michigan Interfaith Power & Light (MiIPL), of which I am a board member, led to a connection with Dr. Pamela Pugh, President of the Michigan State Board of Education.

The connection with Dr. Pamela Pugh led to a presentation for the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences.



The Michigan K-12 HVAC Assistance Program



School Name

COVID-19 SCHOOL BUILDING HVAC CHECKLIST
2015 Michigan Mechanical Code, ASHRAE Standards 55 & 62.1, and ASHRAE COVID-19 Guidelines

INTRODUCTION

Covid-19 has been identified by the CDC as an airborne virus. For that reason, ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers) has created an epidemic task force to develop guidance on the operation of HVAC (Heating, Ventilating, Air-Conditioning) to help try to mitigate the spread of the virus. To review all the recommendations, please refer to the **ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force Schools & Universities** 41-page document that is updated as needed to reflect current understanding of the pandemic. The list of items on this checklist are all comprised from the ASHRAE recommendations and from the EGLE (Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy) indoor air quality (IAQ) checklist. This is intended to provide guidance on how existing systems may be adjusted and operated during the pandemic as well as providing an assessment of additional items and strategies that may be adopted in the future to improve HVAC systems in K-12 schools in the State of Michigan, even after the pandemic is contained.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

When the HVAC specialist arrives on site, they should take note of the listed items to identify any outside issues that negatively impact the building's operation. By surveying the building and interviewing the building occupants, current conditions can be confirmed that may give an indication of general areas to focus on. (Example: confirming the location where outside air enters the building and observing that it is unobstructed).

MECHANICAL ROOM

An HVAC specialist can gather a lot of information about the main HVAC systems by studying a mechanical room. The list of questions are related to general observations to identify potential issues related to the maintenance, repair, and functional operation of HVAC systems.

BUILDING CONTROL SETTINGS

ASHRAE provides standards for how to operate building systems for occupants' comfort (Standard 55) and has expanded recommendations in an effort to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among building occupants to the extent possible by altering, adjusting, and upgrading HVAC systems and their operational parameters. The checklist items identify that the systems are set to optimum standards. The Pandemic Task Force has added further specific recommendations for airborne viruses that are reflected in this section. (Example: Running the air handling systems for 2 hours before and after occupancy will "Flush" the air within the spaces with outside air to reduce concentration of any potential contaminants.)

AIR HANDLING UNITS

This section will capture the most information directly related to HVAC systems operation that may impact building occupants. It is designed to address operational issues with customized recommendations for upgrading any deficient items through use of the attachments and cost range information in the last section of the document, "Recommended Action Items & Estimated Cost". Although not directly located in the occupied spaces, the systems and components reviewed here typically have the most direct impact on IAQ, which is paramount to the well-being of all occupants and will remain so even after the pandemic is contained.

LOCAL HVAC UNITS (Mini Splits, VRF, Unit Ventilators, etc.)

Similar to the Air Handling Units section, this section will include specific HVAC systems operation items for the units that are located directly within the occupied spaces, such as mini split air conditioners, fan coil units for VRF systems, and unit ventilators. It also has similar direct influence on IAQ for occupants during and after the pandemic.

SPACE CONDITIONS

More observations on the HVAC system IAQ and air delivery to spaces and issues related to the actual occupied space configuration are included in this section. This may have the most direct influence on mitigating person-to-person transmission of any airborne or direct contact contaminant.

NEXT STEP/RECOMMENDATIONS

In this section, the HVAC specialist concludes the School Building HVAC checklist by identifying and recommending if any deficiencies may need additional specialists to help further identify, confirm, and fix issues based on what was observed during the systems review process. Confirmation that Action Items have been documented with estimated cost is noted. If any recommendations from the checklist are implemented, it is critical that facility operators are notified and are properly trained on the item for the best results.

1

The JMAC-CTF

- Relationships originated from connection with Dr. Pugh
- Helps school facility management teams with completing the pre-assessment survey
- Provides a FREE 1-hour consultation to school facility management teams
- Assists EGLE with data analysis

Presentations

Webinar Series

- Webinar 2-
October 8th
– Ventilation &
Maintenance of
the ventilation
system
- Webinar 3-
October 22nd
– Filtration &
Maintenance of
the filtration
system
- Webinar 4-
October 29th
– Humidification &
Maintenance of
the humidification
system

Sonya Pouncy <sonya.pouncy@gmail.com>



Thanks For a Wonderful Series

Hi Everyone,

Thanks so much for participating in this very informative and important webinar series. No doubt ASHRAE with Sonya and Paul were the stars of the show. You both did a wonderful job presenting some very complex information in a short amount of time. I cannot fully share how much positive response we've received for these efforts and the information shared.

Awesome to have Michigan Save, Consumers', and DTE join as well as all of these pieces fit together. I really appreciate your help getting the word out and making these tools available.

Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 5:05 PM
"Chad D. Miller"

From: Sean (LEO) <EganS@michigan.gov>
To: Sonya Pouncy <sonya.pouncy@gmail.com>, Paul Prentice <pprentice@deppmann.com>, Todd Parker <tparker@michigansaves.org>, "Chad D. Miller" <Chad.D.Miller@cmsenergy.com>, Kenneth Randazzo <kenneth.randazzo@dteenergy.com>, "alison.jaworowski@dteenergy.com" <alison.jaworowski@dteenergy.com>
Cc: "Lewis, Camara (LEO)" <LewisC16@michigan.gov>

DTE

Back to Business Presents:

Sonya M. Pouncy
CEM, LEED-AP, CMVP
Principal
Building Vitals

Moderator



Andrew Ward
M.Sc.
Consultant
NSF International

Water Quality



James L. Newman
CEM, LEED-AP, OPMP, BEAP
Managing Partner
Newman Consulting Group

Indoor Air Quality



Simon J. Ren
P.E., CEM

President
Simon J. Ren & Associates

Heating System Readiness



Detroit Chapter



Western Michigan Chapter

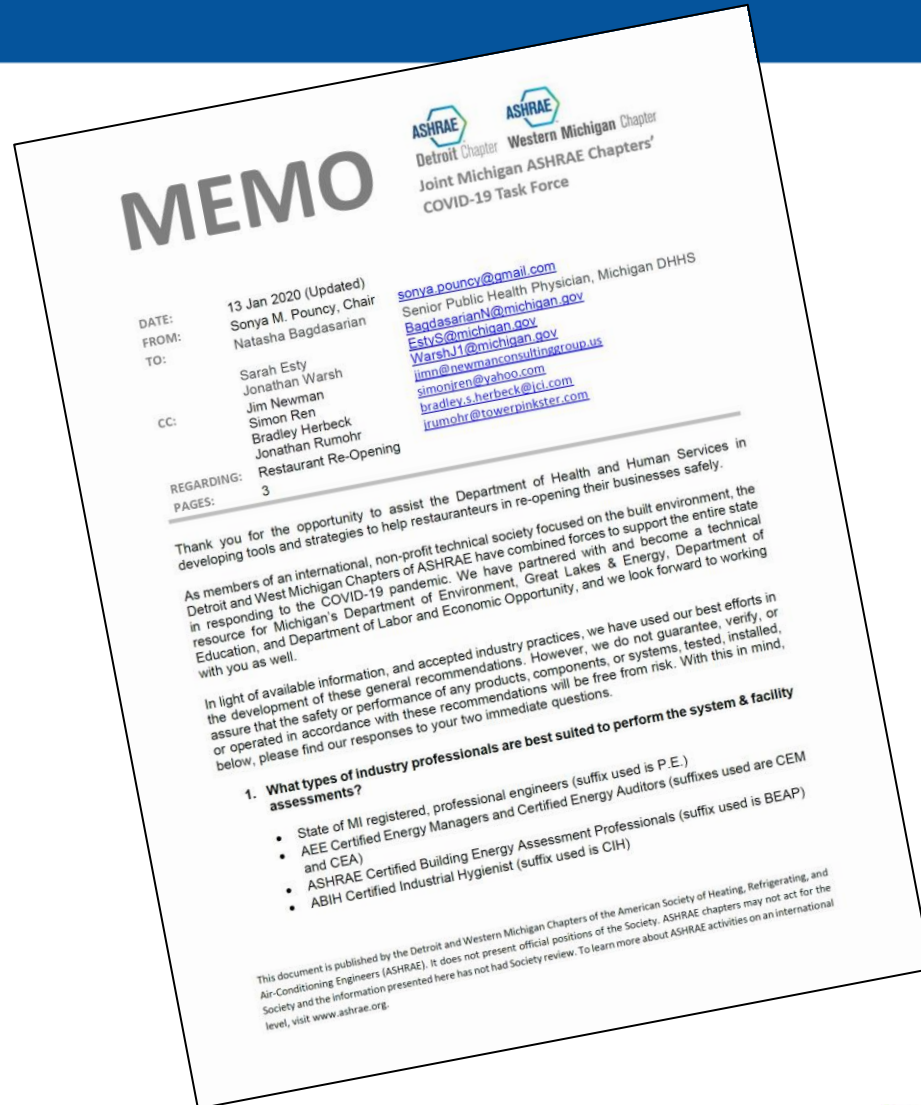
Society References: Visit the ASHRAE COVID-19 Resource Page



www.ashrae.org/covid19

- COVID-19@Ashrae.org
- FAQs
- Recommended actions
- Technology overviews
- Building specific HVAC system guidance
- Transportation HVAC system guidance

Guidance



The Michigan DHHS asked:

1. What types of industry professionals are best suited to perform the system & facility assessments?
2. What are some easy HVAC system modifications that owners can implement to reduce transmission risks in restaurants?

Current Initiatives

SESSION PROPSAL FOR ASHRAE SUMMER 2021 MEETING

SESSION TYPE: Panel

TITLE: To Serve Humanity: The Efforts of ASHRAE Chapters to Help Reduce Risks of Building Related COVID-19 Transmissions

MODERATOR: Sonya M. Pouncy

TRACK: Future-Proofing—Renewable, Regenerative and Resilient

SPONSOR: TC 7.3- Operation, Maintenance and Cost Management

CO-SPONSOR: Environmental Task Force

PANEL ABSTRACT: The ASHRAE mission is “to serve humanity by advancing the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, refrigeration and their allied fields.” How do we do that, in general? And, how do we do that in the face of a foe like COVID-19? Panelist members from 5 chapters and 3 countries will discuss their chapters’ efforts to be a technical resource to their local communities as they respond to pandemic. They will share their strategies, what worked and what didn’t, as well as future planned efforts to raise the profile and reliance on ASHRAE at local community levels.



PRESS CONFERENCE in 2nd Quarter 2021

- 17 Partners including
 - BOMA
 - AIA
 - Consultants
 - Manufacturers
 - Manufacturers’ Representatives
- Use/Case Studies
 - Office Building
 - Hotel/Residential Building
 - School Districts
- Prerecorded facility/equipment tours



ASHRAE Detroit Chapter Resource Guide – 2021 Edition

We invite you to participate in the first annual ASHRAE Detroit Chapter Resource Guide. Funds raised will benefit ASHRAE Research Promotion. This is a chance for you to get your company recognized in a publication that will be widely circulated across the market and posted on the Detroit Chapter website. This guide is not limited to suppliers; we strongly encourage consulting firms to participate and showcase the breadth of projects that you can tackle. After all, this is ASHRAE – the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning ENGINEERS. Since this is the inaugural edition, it will take us some time to compile once we receive everyone’s commitments and submissions. If you would like to participate, we are requesting that you commit by 05/01/2021 to be included in the first targeted publication on 07/01/2021. For the inaugural year, the Resource Guide will be updated quarterly to include additional participants.

Deadline: May 1st 2021
Price Per Page (max 2 pages): \$100

Payable through [ASHRAE Detroit PayPal](#)
Please input \$100 or \$200 for the amount and enter “Resource Guide” in the description.

After you have made your payment, please send your company’s marketing page(s) in 8.5x11” format and your completed product list (suppliers) or service list (consultants) to Alecc Cramer at alecc@deccramer.com.

To view a sample guide, [click here](#)

Thank you for your support of ASHRAE Detroit

ASHRAE Detroit Chapter: Resource Guide Committee

Alecc Cramer (alecc@deccramer.com)
Brittany Fiema (Brittany.fiema@smithgroup.com)
Brad Herbeck (Bradley.s.herbeck@aci.com)
Sonya Pouncy (sonya.pouncy@gmail.com)



Detroit Chapter



Western Michigan Chapter

ASHRAE chapters may not act for the Society.

The Committee

Main Committee

Sonya M. Pouncy, Chair	Jim Newman
Simon J. Ren, Vice Chair	Brian Noonan
Oscar Cobb, Jr.	Paul Prentice
Steve DeVault	Glenn Remington
Ron George	Jonathan Rumohr
Wayne Growth	Mark Saba
Bradley S. Herbeck	Scott Smith
Joshua Hileman	Kelly Sugg
John Line	Andrew Ward
Sari Mira	Jeff Wooten
John Nametz	

Michigan K-12 HVAC Assistance Program Volunteers

Jerome FitzGerald	Anand Pappuri
Bill Gallagher	Matthew Raubinger
Perry Hausman	Simon Ren
Tom Maki	Chad Ruch
Dennis Mentz	Nathan VanHeukelum
John Mentzer	Jonathan Rumohr
Ryan Moore	Kris Witteveen
Jim Newman	Jeff Wooten
Alec Nichols	

Names in bold are members of the executive technical committee.



Detroit Chapter



Western Michigan Chapter

Thank You

Sonya M. Pouncy

sonya.pouncy@gmail.com

Chair, Joint Michigan ASHRAE Chapters' COVID-19 Task Force

Chair, Detroit ASHRAE Chapter Government Affairs Committee

MOTION: That the GAC recommends that ASHRAE leadership enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AASA, The School Superintendents Association.

Motion made by Meghan McNulty, Nanette Lockwood, and Sheila Hayter on behalf of the GAC Member-at-Large team.

BACKGROUND: AASA, The School Superintendents Association (www.aasa.org), is an organization of ~14,000 members who are school system leaders from the US and Canada. AASA has affiliate relationships with 48 state administrator associations and the Canadian Association of School Administrators. AASA serves as the national voice for public education and district leadership on Capitol Hill. The AASA headquarters are located in Alexandria, VA.

Among the many resources AASA provides to its members is a page dedicated to COVID-19 Resources (<https://connect.aasa.org/communities/community-home?CommunityKey=77b6b3e9-aa56-43d2-bbe3-df27ff284713>). The vast majority of these resources have been developed by CDC. Upon initial review of the listed resources, none of the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force resources available on www.ashrae.org/covid19 web site are listed, indicating that AASA is not aware of how ASHRAE can support its efforts to make schools safe for students and staff.

In addition, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 was signed into law on December 27, 2020 and provides an additional \$82 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus. Within that allocation, and per Section 313, the U.S. Secretary of Education is to allocate 67% of these funds to elementary and secondary schools through State educational agencies. The funds can be used for a variety of purposes including “School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs,” and for “Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.” President Gullledge penned a letter in January 2021 to encourage state and local school superintendents to use ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force guidance in the decision-making process for spending these funds.

Finally, with ASHRAE’s network of chapters in the US and Canada that could be mobilized to reach out to state and provincial departments of education and local school districts, we believe there is an interesting opportunity to connect education decision makers with ASHRAE resources and experts. A MOU between ASHRAE and AASA would demonstrate top-level commitment by the two organizations to partner at all levels of the respective organizations.

FISCAL IMPACT: no fiscal impact envisioned at this time, as the work to establish and maintain this relationship would be achieved through volunteer effort.