

Residential Energy Assessment (6 hrs)

by John F Robbins CEM / CSDP

6.0 continuing education hours for engineers, contractors, designers and energy professionals

Course Description

Building professionals including designers, consultants, engineers and contractors often follow prescribed energy programs, incentives and codes while not adequately understanding how and where energy consumption happens or how to target specific energy use reductions. Many programs focus mostly on predicting energy use during design and construction rather than tracking and reducing actual energy use after occupancy. This often leads to missed opportunities to achieve greater reductions in conventional energies. It also can create confusion about what is actually accomplished, especially compared to other projects.

While not designed to convert all building and energy professionals into energy engineers, this course is designed to lessen the sometimes abstract and mysterious natures of home energy use. This course provides building and energy professionals much better and broader understandings of home energy use and reductions opportunities, including:

- how much energy use is typical in existing homes and households
- how residential energy use is distributed among many different tasks
- how conventional energies associate to air pollution
- how to set energy reductions goals overall and per usage category
- how different energy efficiency and alternative energy strategies compare and compete relative to major home energy use categories
- how to use simple math to understand or estimate performance
- how to assist homeowners and occupants to improve efficiency and reduce use

Learning Objectives

- Understand residential energy demographics and trends, including how to compare and rate individual household energy data whether predicted or actual
- Learn how prices and costs for energy content vary among common energies
- Gain better fluency with common energy-related words, phrases and concepts
- Understand energy usage and reductions opportunities category by category: space heating and cooling; water heating; appliances, lighting and electronics
- Learn to advise owners and occupants about participating to achieve greater reductions

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