

NEWS FROM MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Utilities and MCC partner to educate contractors to renovate homes for energy efficiency

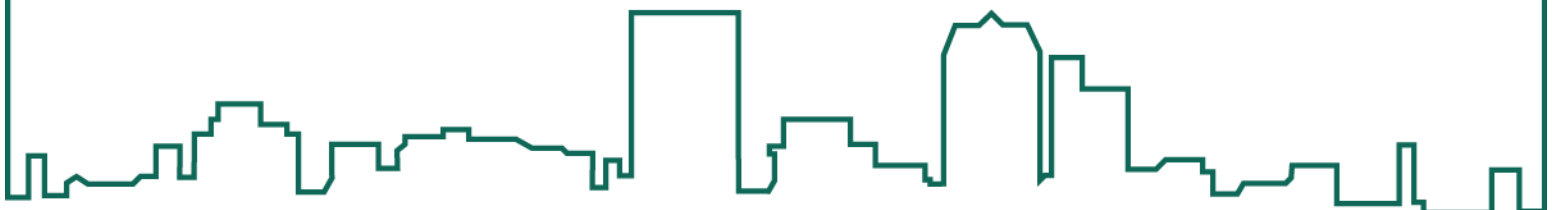
MANCHESTER – A partnership among the four utilities in New Hampshire and Manchester Community College (MCC) will help NH contractors and homeowners benefit from some of the \$18 billion from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act targeted at improving the energy efficiency, durability, comfort, health and safety of existing homes.

The four utilities – National Grid, NH Electrical Cooperative, Public Service of New Hampshire, and Unitil Corporation – are sponsoring a Building Professional Institute (BPI) Analyst train-the-trainer program at Manchester Community College June 1 – 10. Besides covering the BPI Train-the-Trainer tuition for six community college faculty members, the \$20,000 sponsorship by the utilities covers the cost of the equipment and curriculum so MCC can, in turn, offer this specialized training to contractors and other residential construction professionals. The first Building Analyst Professional Training course at MCC in July is already full; the college is offering a second course later this summer.

The BPI training includes classroom study, instruction in TREAT, (a computer program to analyze building efficiency) and field training. At the end of the program, students must pass both written and hands-on testing to become BPI certified professionals.

“BPI training helps a contractor understand the relationship among all the systems in a house – heating, cooling, insulation, moisture control – and their effect on the residents’ health, safety and comfort,” says MCC Director of Workforce Development Kathy DesRoches. “A BPI-certified contractor can measure the energy efficiency of a building, learn where systems are not working correctly, suggest recommendations for improvements, and show the homeowner the payback in energy savings and comfort.”

BPI is a nationally recognized global leader that supports the development of a highly professional building industry through individual and organization credentialing and a rigorous quality assurance program. BPI works with the building construction industry to ensure that a high professional bar for excellence is established and maintained by creating and regularly updating technical requirements.



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BPI's certification, accreditation, and quality assurance services are recognized by the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program, a collaborative national initiative co-sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to bring about a systematic improvement to the performance of the nation's 120 million existing homes.

For more information about MCC's BPI Certification program, go to <http://www.manchestercommunitycollege.edu/WDC/schedule.aspx> or call Kathy DesRoches at 603-668-6706 ext. 302.

For more information about BPI, click on www.bpi.org



HANDS-ON TRAINING. BPI-certified trainer Richard Riegel-Burbank of Evergreen Home Performance in Rockland, Maine explains how a Blower Door Test works during the Building Analyst Professional Training course at Manchester Community College (MCC) June 1-10. During the test at a home in Candia, all doors and windows in a house were closed, and a fan depressurized the building by pulling outside air in through openings in the house. An infrared camera then showed where the air entered the house, and where additional caulking, insulation, etc. can make the home more energy-efficient. Taking their turn at setting the blower door controls are Kathy DesRoches, MCC Workforce Development Center director (left) and Susanna Sturrock, Director of Energy Efficiency, Key HVAC, Portsmouth. At the completion of the course, participants must pass a two-hour written test and successfully perform a building analysis before earning their Building Professional Institute (BPI) Analyst certification. *Janet M. Phelps photo*



An infrared camera shows air leakage in a home in Candia during a Building Professional Institute (BPI) Analysis blower door test as part of a BPI certification course at Manchester Community College. *Janet M. Phelps photo*



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