

Q2

April – June 2024

be
ex

building
energy
exchange

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This quarter, BE-Ex was pleased to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Daylight Hour, host highly attended networking events, and release multiple impactful new resources diving into commercial building decarbonization.

April 4, 2024

Women in Sustainability & Energy: Sustainable Career Showcase

The Sustainable Career Showcase highlighted six women from diverse backgrounds across the sustainability and energy fields, including law, government, utilities, consulting, and non-profit. They offered insights about their career journeys and breaking into the field to a full room of emerging and career transitioning professionals. After the presentations, participants had a chance to connect at the networking reception.





May 29, 2024

Planning for Net-Zero: The Retrofit Playbook for Large Buildings with New Empire Building Challenge Multi-family Winners

This event kicked off with presentations from RMI, BE-Ex, and three Empire Building Challenge cohort winners, who shared their project's decarbonization journey. Following the presentations, in-person attendees had the opportunity to meet the EBC partners in smaller discussion groups. This personalized Q&A sparked engaging conversation and facilitated important knowledge sharing.

► <https://be-exchange.org/planning-for-net-zero/>

June 27, 2024

Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Housing

This presentation and panel discussion highlighted the *Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low Carbon Housing report*. Attendees learned about the process of developing performance-based utility cost benchmarks and how lenders can update their underwriting practices.



► <https://be-exchange.org/fhi-low-carbon-underwriting-event/>

column

Press Release: Daylight Hour Celebrates 10th Anniversary, Promoting Energy Efficiency in Offices Across the World

by Chloe Kellner

Assistant, Education & Engagement

Building Energy Exchange

June 19, 2024

This year, Building Energy Exchange celebrates ten years of Daylight Hour, a global social media campaign raising awareness of energy efficiency in the built environment.

Taking place on June 20, 2024, from 12-1pm (local time), the campaign invites offices from around the world to participate by turning off their lights for one hour and promoting their involvement on social media. By turning off non-essential lighting, this year's Daylight Hour aims to save enough energy to power 40 Empire State Buildings.

Since 2014, Daylight Hour has

reached over 6,000 offices in cities around the U.S. and dozens of countries around the world—from China and Singapore to the UK and Canada. The campaign draws a variety of industries, including architecture, engineering, government, academia, and non-profits. Past participants include Vornado Realty Trust, Arup, New York Public Library, Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Daylight Hour is an annual campaign hosted by the Building Energy Exchange, a NYC-based non-profit educational hub advancing energy efficiency in the built

environment. Taking place on June 20, the longest day of the year, Daylight Hour encourages offices from all sectors to showcase their commitment to sustainability in a simple way: turn off nonessential lights in daylit spaces for one hour and share on social media using the hashtag #DaylightHour to spread awareness of energy efficiency.

By engaging online, Daylight Hour provides a fun and easy way for offices to come together and increase awareness around the energy, climate, health, and comfort benefits of daylighting. In past years, offices have shared creative photos and videos from their workplace online and competed for Daylight Hour participation awards.

Commercial buildings use 11% of their total electricity for lighting, double that of residential buildings. Given this, daylighting office spaces is an impactful and easy way to reduce energy use and carbon emissions,

particularly during the summer when daylight lasts the longest. In addition to energy and climate benefits, daylighting is shown to increase productivity, regulate circadian rhythms, and reduce eyestrain. Daylight Hour emphasizes this important and simple measure that offices can take to both improve employee wellbeing and move towards an energy efficient future.

Since its launch in 2014, Daylight Hour has grown exponentially in reach and impact, attracting participation from both standalone offices and entire building portfolios, like FirstService Residential, North America's largest residential property management company, or NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services, property manager for all city-owned buildings. In 2019, NYC DCAS' tenants achieved an overall reduction of 3,350 kW during Daylight Hour—equivalent to burning 5,500 lbs. of coal.



The campaign hosts a wide variety of resources to encourage individuals to understand the benefits of daylighting and enjoy the event. Visit our lighting calculator to estimate your energy saved, download our sunshine origami, play the Daylight Hour Bingo to compete for the Blackout Award, or listen to a set of Radio BE-Ex podcasts on the benefits of daylighting: Social Equity and Daylighting with Lisa Heschong, The Power of Daylight with Susan Ubbelhode, and Shining

Light on Healthy Buildings with Sara Karerat.

Last year, Daylight Hour saved enough energy in one hour to power 30 Empire State Buildings. This year, for our 10th anniversary, Daylight Hour is raising the goal to 40 Empire State Buildings to highlight the strength of collective action. Building Energy Exchange encourages offices from any industry to register and participate in next year's Daylight Hour. To learn more, visit daylighthour.org. ■

“The campaign itself is a testament to the importance of collective action. In order to realize a more sustainable and energy-efficient future for all, we must work together to mitigate emissions and inspire change — one hour at a time.”

Richard Yancey, Founding Executive Director, Building Energy Exchange

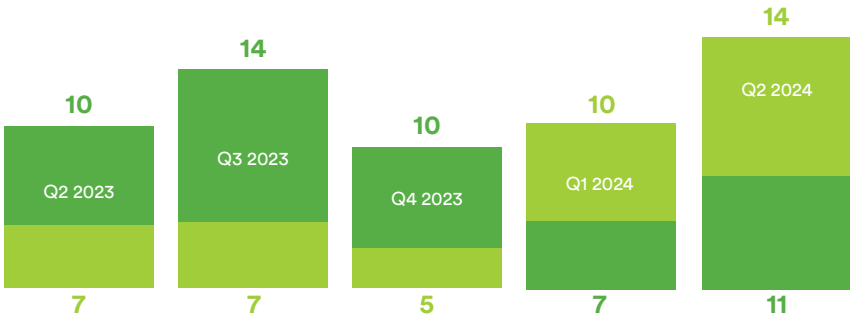
● programs

BE-Ex delivered 25 events in Q2, a significant jump from the past quarter. This increase is due to our expanding support for our partner organizations and multifaceted BE-Ex programming including resource launch events, networking evenings, trainings, and panels.

BE-Ex Events

■ BE-Ex Developed

■ BE-Ex Hosted



BE-Ex developed events

diversity goals

1. No all male panels
Q2 number: 0

2. 50% female speakers across BE-Ex events
Q1: 43%



average number of days on calendar, BE-Ex events



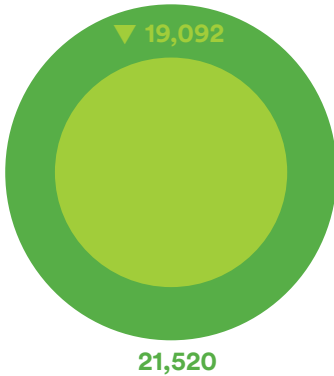
average attendance, BE-Ex events

● audience

BE-Ex enjoyed steady growth in our social media following, as well as an increase in site traffic and resources downloads due to the addition of the *International Exchanges – Solutions for Low Carbon Building: Stockholm* report, the *Retrofit Playbook* website launch, and the *Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low Carbon Housing* guidebook.

■ Q1 2024 ■ Q2 2024

newsletter subscribers



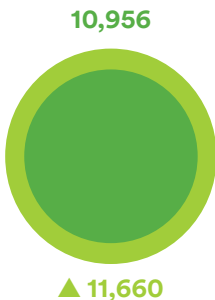
resource downloads



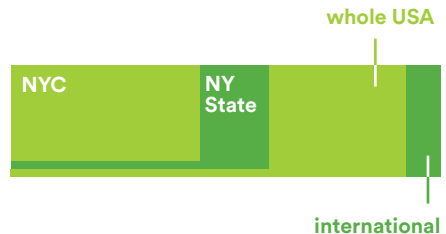
39,071

unique website sessions in
Q2 2024

social media followers



program audience geographic distribution



NYC - Stockholm Retrofit Exchange



BE-Ex, in partnership with NYSERDA and the Swedish Energy Agency, hosted a panel featuring an invigorating discussion with building decarbonization leaders from NYC and Stockholm. Industry experts shared green building strategies from each city, expanding BE-Ex's international knowledge sharing initiative.

This highly attended event marked the release of the report, *International Exchanges – Solutions for Low Carbon Building: Stockholm*, distilling important insights from Stockholm's decarbonization efforts. The report shares insights from the BE-Ex and NYSERDA led fact-finding mission to Stockholm last year.



Pratt Institute Ice Box Challenge Exhibit at BE-Ex - Empowering Tomorrow's High-Performance Designers

Last summer, Pratt Institute architecture students completed the first collegiate Ice Box Challenge in Professor In Cho's design build class. The Ice Box Challenge showcases the energy efficiency of Passive House buildings by comparing two ice filled structures to see which keeps the heat out better. In the Pratt ice boxes, the Passive House box retained 163 pounds more ice than the box built to local building code!

The students who completed this project created a visual display of their work at BE-Ex, including drawings and test models. BE-Ex hosted the launch event for the exhibit on May 14th, inviting speakers from Pratt, Passive House for Everyone, The Passive House Network, ROCKWOOL, NYSERDA, and the Mayors Office of Climate and Environmental Justice. The exhibit will be on display through the fall.

The event and exhibit emphasize the role of students and emerging leaders in the effort to decarbonize buildings and the importance of empowering students with the tools to create transformative solutions.

Event Recap:

<https://be-exchange.org/pratt-ice-box-challenge-empowering-tomorrows-high-performance-designers/>

Press Release:

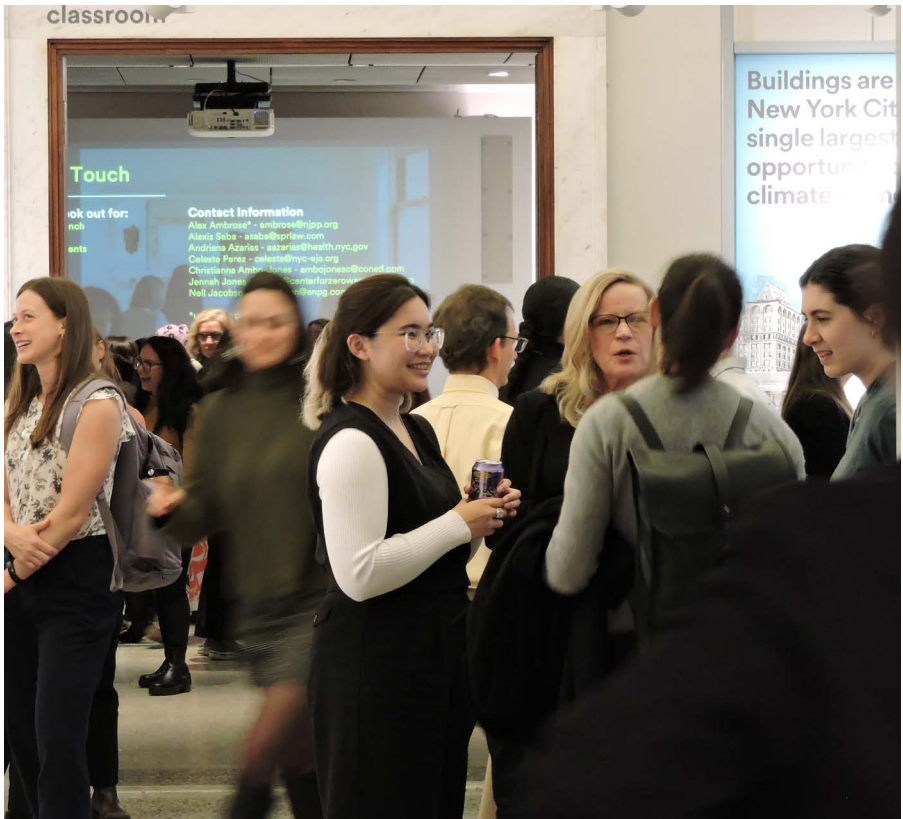
<https://be-exchange.org/insight/press-release-pratt-ice-box-challenge-empowering-tomorrows-high-performance-designers/>

Radio BE-Ex Episode (Featuring In Cho):

<https://player.blubrry.com/id/132526919>

July 10, 2024
Wine with WISE:
Networking Evening

The Women in Sustainability & Energy is hosting a networking event designed to grow our community of emerging and seasoned professionals. To help facilitate connections, we will be hosting a fun round of conversation bingo and providing drinks and snacks.



July 24, 2024

**Decarbonizing NYC
Offices: Leveraging High-
Performance Leases**

This presentation and panel event will dive into maximizing emission reductions for office buildings through key stages of the commercial tenant leasing cycle. In partnership with the Institute for Market Transformation and NYSERDA, we will be hosting industry experts from Sive, Paget & Riesel, OMERS, Vorgate, and Vornado Realty Trust. This event will highlight the launch of the Decarbonizing New York City Offices initiative.

► <https://be-exchange.org/dnyo-leases/>



September 10, 2024

**Climate Ready Buildings
Training - HCR & HPD
Webinar**

This last live Climate Ready Buildings Training will educate affordable housing project teams on how to design climate resilient buildings, including Integrative Design Process, and how to meet emission regulations. Participants will learn more in depth about either NYS Homes & Community Renewal (HCR) or NYC Housing Preservation & Development (HPD) funding.

► <https://be-exchange.org/crbt-hcr-hpd-webinar/>

completed



► <https://retrofitplaybook.org>

resource

Retrofit Playbook for Large Building

Developed in partnership with NYSERDA, RMI, and ULI, this website is a knowledge-sharing platform supporting building owners, operators, and their design and engineering teams in creating cost-effective, long-term decarbonization strategies for large buildings. This platform hosts a collection of resources offering guidance and insights from EBC project teams to inform the development of effective decarbonization roadmaps for their properties.

initiative

Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Buildings

As part of Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Buildings project, BE-Ex released the Low-Carbon Underwriting Guidebook, which helps practitioners navigate the complexities of financing high-performance, low-carbon housing, as well as the Low-Carbon Underwriting toolkit, which serves as an evaluation tool to help lenders update their underwriting practices. This initiative was developed in partnership with Bright Power and NYSERDA.



► https://be-exchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/2024_FHI_Underwriting-Standards-for-Low-Carbon-Housing-Guidebook.pdf

upcoming



resource

Decarbonizing New York City Offices

The Decarbonizing New York City Offices project will release several new resources next quarter, highlighting best practices and leading solutions to drive the sustained decarbonization of leased office spaces. Most notably, playbooks for tenants, building owners, and consultants offer curated guidance and resources for these key commercial real estate stakeholders. Other resources include: Developing High-Performance Leases, High-Performance Fit-Outs, Selecting High-Performance Commercial Spaces, and more.



report

High Rise / Low Carbon: Multifamily Retrofits

Building off the High Rise / Low Carbon: Office Deep Retrofit Profiles, the latest installment in the High Rise / Low Carbon series will be focused on large multifamily residential building retrofits in climates like New York with high heating demand. In development with Level Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy Partnerships, this report will create a second global compendium of case studies featuring multifamily buildings, which face a different set of opportunities and challenges than their commercial counterparts.

programs

WISE: Sustainable Career Showcase
April 4th

Climate Ready Buildings Training
April 24th

District 33 Electrification Workshop
April 30th

Pratt Ice Box Challenge: Empowering
Tomorrow's High Performance Designers
May 14th

Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable
Housing Training
May 14th

Retrofit Exchange: NYC - Stockholm
May 29th

Planning for Net-Zero: The Retrofit
Playbook for Large Buildings with New
Empire Building Challenge Multifamily
Winners
June 11th

Climate Ready Buildings Training - HCR
Webinar
June 11th

State of the Industry Networking Evening
June 25th

Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon
Housing
June 27th

project status

Q2 2024

- Climate Mobilization Act: Affordable Housing Training
- Empire Building Challenge Knowledge Platform
- Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Housing
- Solutions for Low Carbon Building: Stockholm
- Decarbonizing New York City Offices: Resources and Training

Ongoing

- Building Performance Partnership: Hubs Support
- Cold Climate Heat Pump Tech Primer
- Future Housing Initiative: An Equity & Carbon Database for Multifamily Housing - Health Metrics
- Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0 - Ongoing Training
- High Rise/Low Carbon: Multifamily Deep Retrofit Profiles