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**From:** Atlanta Chapter of ASHRAE <ashraeatlanta@wildapricot.org>  
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**Subject:** March/April 2020 Newsletter: ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter

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## MARCH/APRIL 2020 NEWSLETTER

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Hello Atlanta ASHRAE Chapter. First and foremost, we hope that all of our members are staying safe and healthy in these unprecedented times. The last newsletter and events that occurred were in early March, and it truly is amazing how fast events can change in such a short amount of time. So, as everyone continues to work from home and is scattered far and wide, please stay safe, practice social distancing, and let's get past this as quickly as possible.*

*As many of you know, we had to cancel our April meeting, along with our Trade Show, and we did not have enough time to set up any virtual alternatives. Now that everyone has settled into a virtual work environment, we are happy to announce that we will be hosting a virtual May meeting. This will be at the same time and date as our normal monthly meetings, but just online (like every other meeting you're currently having). We are offering this meeting as a free event. All members and non-members are encouraged to join and can receive a PDH credit.*

*Also, the Trade Show was postponed. We are working toward a new date in mid-October to reschedule. We know this is a big event for both our vendors and engineer, contractor, and end user communities. Stay tuned for up to date info on the rescheduled Trade Show as that date gets closer.*

*Again, we as a Chapter are thinking about all of our members in a time like this. Please reach out to anyone in Chapter leadership if you have questions or concerns or are looking for additional ASHRAE literature on the handling of COVID-19. We are very much*

*looking forward to meeting again in person with everyone in the future, but for now, please stay safe and we will see everyone virtually!*

- Parker Brunelle, Atlanta Chapter President 2019-2020

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## CHAPTER MEETINGS

### Georgia Power's 2020 Commercial Energy Efficiency Program Updates with Project Examples and Highlights



**When:** 12 May 2020, 12:00 PM - 1:00 EST

**Where:** Virtual

#### **Technical Description:**

Georgia Power will provide an overview and updates of their 2020 Commercial Energy Efficiency program and highlight examples of rebated projects. The presentation will include program requirements, eligible measures, incentive levels, and the rebate application process with changes related to the 2020 – 2022 programs cycle certified by the Georgia Public Service Commission as part of Georgia Power's Demand Side Management ("DSM") filing. Project highlights will include technologies that exceed Georgia's energy code minimum efficiency requirements, such as HVAC/R equipment, LED Lighting and Controls for existing buildings and new construction projects.

#### **Speakers:**



**Natasha Reynolds**



**Richard Cohen**



**Reema Vashi**

[REGISTER NOW](#)

**Online Registration:**

- <https://ashraeatlanta.wildapricot.org/event-3821285>
- FREE for all attendees!

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## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) organizes ASHRAE members to educate local, state, and national government bodies and officials about issues relating to the HVAC&R industry and promotes effective cooperation between ASHRAE members and government. Check out ASHRAE's advocacy resources: <https://www.ashrae.org/about/government-affairs/public-policy-resources>

### Public Health – ASHRAE Resources to Address COVID-19 Concerns

The ASHRAE COVID-19 Preparedness Resources webpage, [ashrae.org/COVID19](https://www.ashrae.org/COVID19), provides easily accessible resources from ASHRAE to building industry professionals. Recent developments include:

- ASHRAE establishes an [Epidemic Task Force](#) to develop technical guidance
- 2020 Annual Conference will be a [virtual event](#) and will not take place in Austin, TX this summer
- ASHRAE Members have [free online access to all ASHRAE Handbooks](#) through June 30<sup>th</sup>
- ASHRAE Journal Newsletter article providing [guidance for building operations](#)

**On the recommendation of the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force, ASHRAE leadership has approved the following two statements regarding transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and the operation of HVAC systems during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 through the air is sufficiently likely that airborne exposure to the virus should be controlled. Changes to building operations, including the operation of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems, can reduce airborne exposures.

Ventilation and filtration provided by heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems can reduce the airborne concentration of SARS-CoV-2 and thus the risk of transmission through the air. Unconditioned spaces can cause thermal stress to people that may be directly life threatening and that may also lower resistance to infection. In general, disabling of heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems is not a recommended measure to reduce the transmission of the virus.

The [ASHRAE COVID-19](#) page is being updated continuously. Specific guidance is presented for healthcare, commercial, school, and residential buildings, modes of transportation and filtration and disinfection technologies.

## Georgia Primaries Rescheduled to June 9, 2020; Vote-by-Mail Encouraged

In response to Georgia's public health state of emergency, all primaries originally scheduled for March 24 or May 19 will be [rescheduled to Tuesday, June 9, 2020](#). This election includes primaries for President, US Senate, US Congress, Public Service Commissioners, State Senate, and State House.

The state has mailed absentee ballot applications (pictured) to all registered voters to encourage voting-by-mail due to the pandemic. The application can be returned to your [county voter registration office](#) by postal mail or email.

The new voter registration deadline is May 11, 2020, and early voting begins on May 18, 2020. Visit the Georgia My Voter Page to register to vote, check your voter registration details, and preview your ballot: <https://www.mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do>

### Resources for Other Indoor Air Quality Concerns

The Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality now provides [recorded webinars](#) from past meetings with technical information on IAQ concerns related to legionella, e-cigarettes, vaping, asthma, and 3D printers.

### Georgia Energy Code Help Desk

Southface Institute, in partnership with the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) and the Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance (SEEA), will provide support through the Georgia Energy Code Help Desk through the end of 2020. From Southface:

*The Help Desk supports all building professionals, including builders, designers, tradespeople, verifiers, inspectors and code officials who have questions about the 2020 Georgia State Minimum Standard Energy Codes for both residential and commercial buildings. Explore our [Georgia Energy Code Resource page](#) with free materials, including the Georgia Residential and Commercial Energy Code Field Guides (with Spanish translations), training videos, fact sheets, calculators and other resources.*

*If you cannot find an answer on our website, please submit your question to the Help Desk using the webform at the bottom of the resource page. A Southface energy code specialist will respond within one business day.*

*All the best as you implement the updated energy codes!*

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## HISTORIAN

### History of the Refrigerator

Today in the US, about 99.5% of households contain a refrigerator. The idea of keeping foods cool to prevent spoilage is not a new one, but it may be surprising to understand that the appliance, a fixture in most homes, is relatively new to the world.

There were a number of ways to keep food cool in earlier times, and humans made use of a diverse number of natural surroundings. Placing food in cold streams, secreting it in the backs of caves, or digging underground to create cellars were all early methods of cooling

foods. People also cut ice in the wintertime, and stored it in deep cellars or icehouses. Such ice could keep for a significant period of time, especially if it was covered in salt.

The first kitchen “appliance” that bears some resemblance to the refrigerator is the icebox. These were developed just before the 19th century. They were simply wooden boxes, often installed in a home, and sometimes lined with metal or other materials. People would purchase ice, place it in the box, and then store foods with it that needed to be kept cool. The ice would slowly melt, so most ice boxes featured drip pans, which could be removed and dumped.

Many studies on the aspects of refrigeration were developed before the icebox, but simply hadn’t been put into practice yet. Dr. William Cullen is often thought of as a pioneer in refrigeration technology since his scientific experiments in the early 18th century observed how liquids evaporated in a vacuum-like setting. Other scientists set out to study aspects of cooling and chemicals. Dr. John Goorie created an ice-making machine to help address the needs of patients with yellow fever, and Michael Faraday studied the properties of ammonia. Faraday realized ammonia had a cooling effect.

These early studies, and the ideas of many other scientists, led to the development of the first refrigerator in 1876 by the German engineer Carl von Linde. He had perfected a process by which large amounts of liquids could be converted into gas in order to keep a defined environment cool. Linde continued to perfect his invention, and others followed suit. By 1920, over 200 companies were manufacturing different models, and at this same time, many companies had developed technologies to produce them with combined freezers. They were still very much luxury appliances, and many people continued to use the old standby of the icebox instead.

Over the next decades, refrigeration technology improved but some of the chemicals used to create a cold environment caused problems. For instance, Freon® was frequently used to cool or freeze foods. While this may have been effective, it released chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which were later shown to be hazardous to the environment. Additionally, early appliances used a significantly higher amount of electric energy than their modern counterparts. Efforts on behalf of conservationists and environmentalists were eventually successful, and by the 1980s, most models ran on less power and did not use or release CFCs.

Along the way, other features were added to refrigerators, and automatic defrost capabilities and ice-making components were added bonuses. The cost also became more affordable for most families, though there are still luxury models that are well out the price range of the average middle class family. Basic fridges can now be purchased for about half their selling prices in the 1920s.

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## JOB POSTINGS

Senior Chiller Mechanic, Emory University

- <https://staff-emory.icims.com/jobs/44845/job>

Multiple Positions, AHA Engineers

- Electrical Project Engineer
- Electrical Design
- Mechanical Project Engineer HVAC

- Mechanical Design Engineer HVAC
- <https://www.aha-engineers.com/careers/>

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