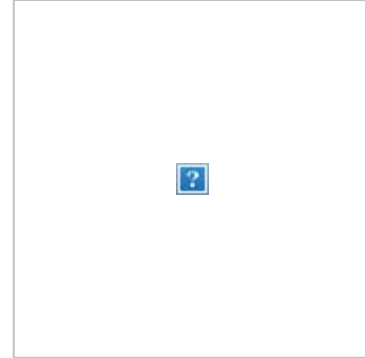
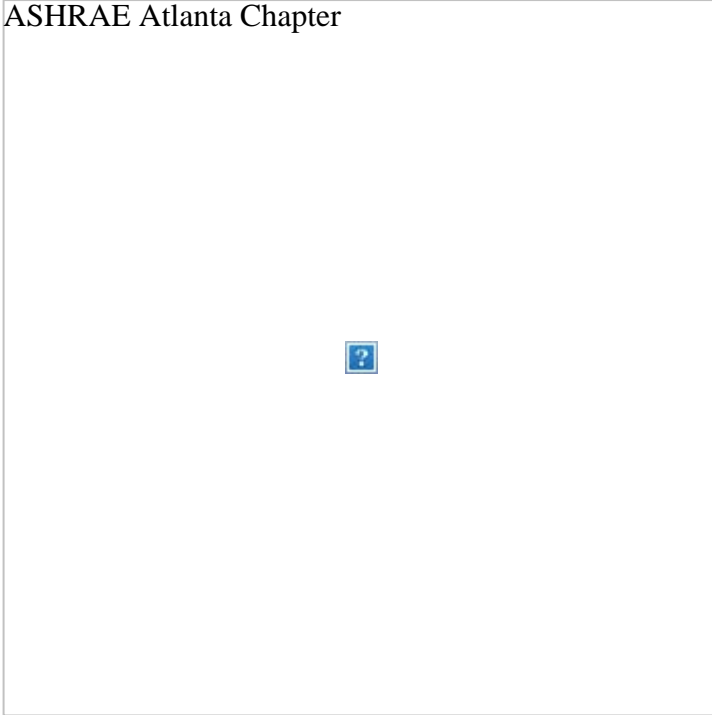


From: [Atlanta Chapter of ASHRAE](#)
To:
Subject: March 2022 Newsletter: ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 10:00:43 AM

ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter



MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

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CHAPTER MEETINGS

APRIL 2022 CHAPTER MEETING

Join us for an in-person chapter meeting!

The Changing Landscape of Refrigerants

When: Tuesday, April 12th at 6:00 PM
Where: Maggiano's in Cumberland Mall

Technical Description

ASHRAE, a world leader in refrigerant technology, research, and standards development, is currently supporting a global transition to the use of lower Global Warming Potential (GWP) refrigerants to reduce the effects of our technologies on the environment.

The Montreal Protocol banned the use of CFC refrigerants and is working to phase out the use of HCFC refrigerants worldwide. The replacement HFC refrigerants, such as R-410A and R-134a, have zero Ozone Depletion Potential (ODP), but have a high GWP and are under increasing regulatory scrutiny in the US. Refrigerant producers, assisted by organizations such as ASHRAE, have developed new refrigerants that are classified as zero or near-zero ozone depleting and have a lower GWP than those currently in use. Many proposed lower GWP refrigerants are classified as flammable which will require changes in how systems using these refrigerants are designed and applied.

This presentation will provide an update on industry and regulatory activities related to the phase down of HFC refrigerants and the transition to lower-GWP refrigerants, including the policy issues driving the demand for alternative refrigerants, changes in critical codes and standards (such as ASHRAE Standard 15), a discussion of future low-GWP refrigerant options, and an overview of the challenges in utilizing flammable refrigerants in comfort conditioning systems.

Speaker

Douglas Tucker

Doug Tucker is the Director of Industry and Government Relations at Mitsubishi Electric US, Inc. (MEUS) in Suwanee, Georgia. In this role he represents the interests of the Heating and Air Conditioning Division with governmental organizations, with industry trade groups and regulatory bodies, and with energy efficiency and environmental advocacy groups. He is a recognized expert in the fields of standards development, conformity assessment, and regulatory policy of HVAC&R equipment. Doug is currently focused on advocacy endeavors to facilitate the safe transition to low-GWP refrigerants at the state and federal levels.

Prior to joining Mitsubishi Electric in 2014, Doug directed the international standards activities of ASHRAE, managing the development of ISO standards for refrigeration & air-conditioning, building energy efficiency, and indoor environmental quality. As staff liaison, he was also responsible for ASHRAE Standard 15, *Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems*, and ASHRAE Standard 34, *Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants*. Preceding his 15 years with ASHRAE, Doug was engaged for over 10 years in various engineering and management roles with Intertek/ETL Testing Laboratories.

An ASHRAE member since 1999, Doug currently serves on SPC 15.2P - *Safety Standard for Refrigeration Systems in Residential Applications*, SSPC 34 - *Designation and Safety Classification of Refrigerants*, SSPC 90.1 - *Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings*, SGPC 41 - *Design, Installation and Commissioning of Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Systems*, and MTG *Lower Global Warming Potential Alternative Refrigerants*. He was one of three presenters for the 2019 ASHRAE Webcast: *The Future of Refrigerants: Unitary and VRF Systems*.

Doug also serves as a member of the boards of directors of the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy and the Green Building Initiative, and is active on Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) standards, regulatory and government relations committees.

He received his Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and his MBA in International Business from Georgia State University, and has held a Professional Engineer license in Georgia and Florida.

Online Registration:

- ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter Member: \$30
- ASHRAE Society Member: \$40
- Non-Members and Guests: 420

- Students: FREE
- Note: Online registration closes 24 hours before the meeting.

Late/Walk-Up Registration: \$40 regardless of membership status

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

The Government Affairs Committee encourages ASHRAE members to share their technical expertise with government officials on issues relating to the HVAC&R industry.

Georgia Building Codes – 2023 Amendments Process

The first meetings of the Georgia Building Code Amendment subcommittees will be held in early April at the Dept of Community Affairs office (Boardroom 302, 60 Executive Park South NE, Atlanta, GA 30329). All are welcome to attend, masks are encouraged. Details: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/7799>. DCA Staff: jim.reynolds@dca.ga.gov for ERB or christian.poulos@dca.ga.gov for PMG.

- Energy, Residential, and Building (ERB) Amendments Subcommittee – Tuesday, April 5, 10 am
- Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas (PMG) Amendments Subcommittee – Thursday, April 7, 10 am

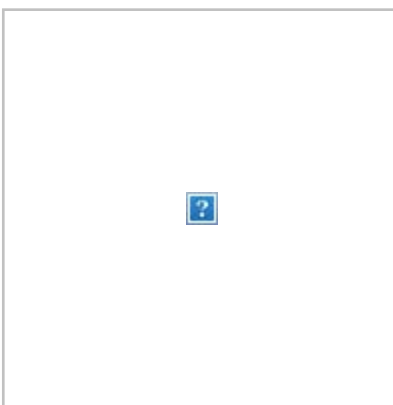
White House Releases National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, Launches *Clean Air in Buildings Challenge*

On March 2, the White House released its National COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, signaling a new chapter in how we approach the pandemic: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/covidplan/> Ventilation and filtration are key components of goal 3, prevent economic and educational shutdowns.

The first of the proposed plans, the [Clean Air in Buildings Challenge](#), launched on March 17th, with four key recommendations for building owners and operators:

1. Create a clean indoor air action plan
2. Optimize ventilation
3. Enhance filtration and air cleaning
4. Conduct community engagement, communication, and education

Visit the [EPA page](#) for the latest version of the checklist. [ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force guidance](#) is included in the technical resources.



Do you know a building that is up to the *Challenge*?

The Atlanta Chapter would like to recognize local buildings that meet the *Clean Air in Buildings Challenge*. Owner, operator, vendor, consultant – if you’ve done any of the items on the *Challenge* checklist, you can be featured in our ***Clean Air in Buildings Showcase!*** Email the [GAC Chair](#) with a brief description of your project. You’ll have the opportunity to share your building’s story at an upcoming Chapter meeting.

Upcoming GAC Task Force Meetings

All are welcome. Sign up on the Chapter website, and you’ll receive a link to the Teams meeting. Mondays from 1 to 1:30 pm: April 18th, and May 16th.

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SUSTAINABILITY

The Sustainability Committee organizes ASHRAE members to develop chapter programs or chapter sponsored educational seminars, chapter sponsored community sustainability projects, and grassroots programs for the betterment of the local community. Check out ASHRAE’s Community Sustainability Project program: <https://www.ashrae.org/communities/chapters/ashrae-chapters/ashrae-community-sustainability-projects>

Building Readiness

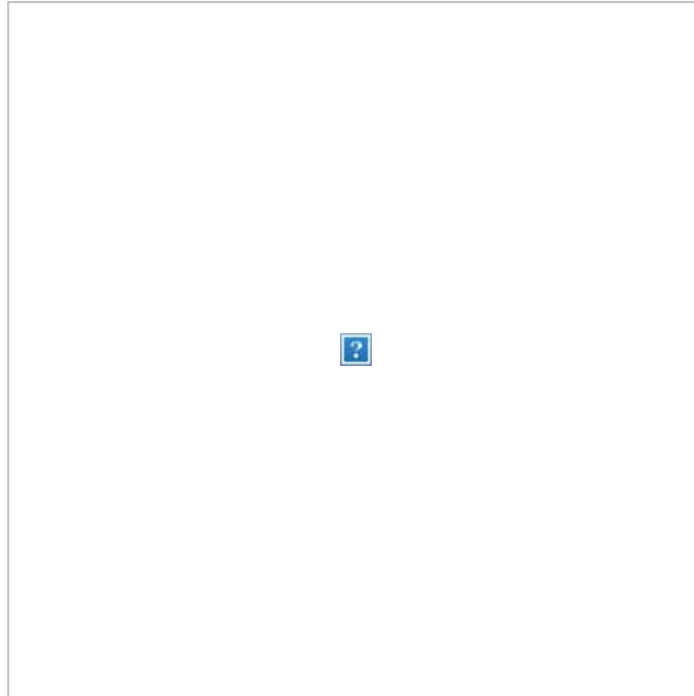
The ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force has issued updated recommendations to combat the spread of infectious airborne diseases in commercial buildings. “The [Building Readiness Guide](#) includes additional information and clarifications to assist designers and commissioning providers in performing pre- or post-occupancy flush calculations to reduce the time and energy to clear spaces of contaminants between occupancy periods,” said Wade Conlan, ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force Building Readiness team lead.

The health and safety of building occupants and operations personnel is always the primary consideration in the Building Readiness Guide. In addition to health and safety measures, the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force has included important

energy savings considerations. These energy savings strategies cover operating guidelines for buildings that are experiencing temporary reduced occupancies and closures, as well as systems control optimization and energy-efficient operating guidance. Please reference the **Energy Savings Considerations** portion of the [Building Readiness Guide](#) for recommendations on appropriate energy savings strategies for re-opening.

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YOUNG ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION (YEA)



Join ASHRAE-YEA at Sweetwater Brewing for Happy Hour on the patio and a Brewery tour on Thursday, June 2nd from 5:00-9:00 pm

The cost for admission if you want beer tastings is **\$5 if you register early through ASHRAE**, or pay for the amount you want at the door. If you aren't looking for any tastings, you can always come and hang out with fellow ASHRAE members and friends at a cool brewery for the always awesome price of \$FREE.

The address is 195 Ottley Dr NE, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Please RSVP on the [ASHRAE Atlanta Chapter](#) website so we can get a head count and if you are looking for discounted pricing! We hope to see you there!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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ACE Mentor Program of Atlanta Golf Tournament

Join us on April 28th at Bear's Best Golf Course for golf and good times with Atlanta's design and construction community!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

All proceeds benefit the 2022 Scholarship Fund for ACE Mentor Program of Atlanta students.

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