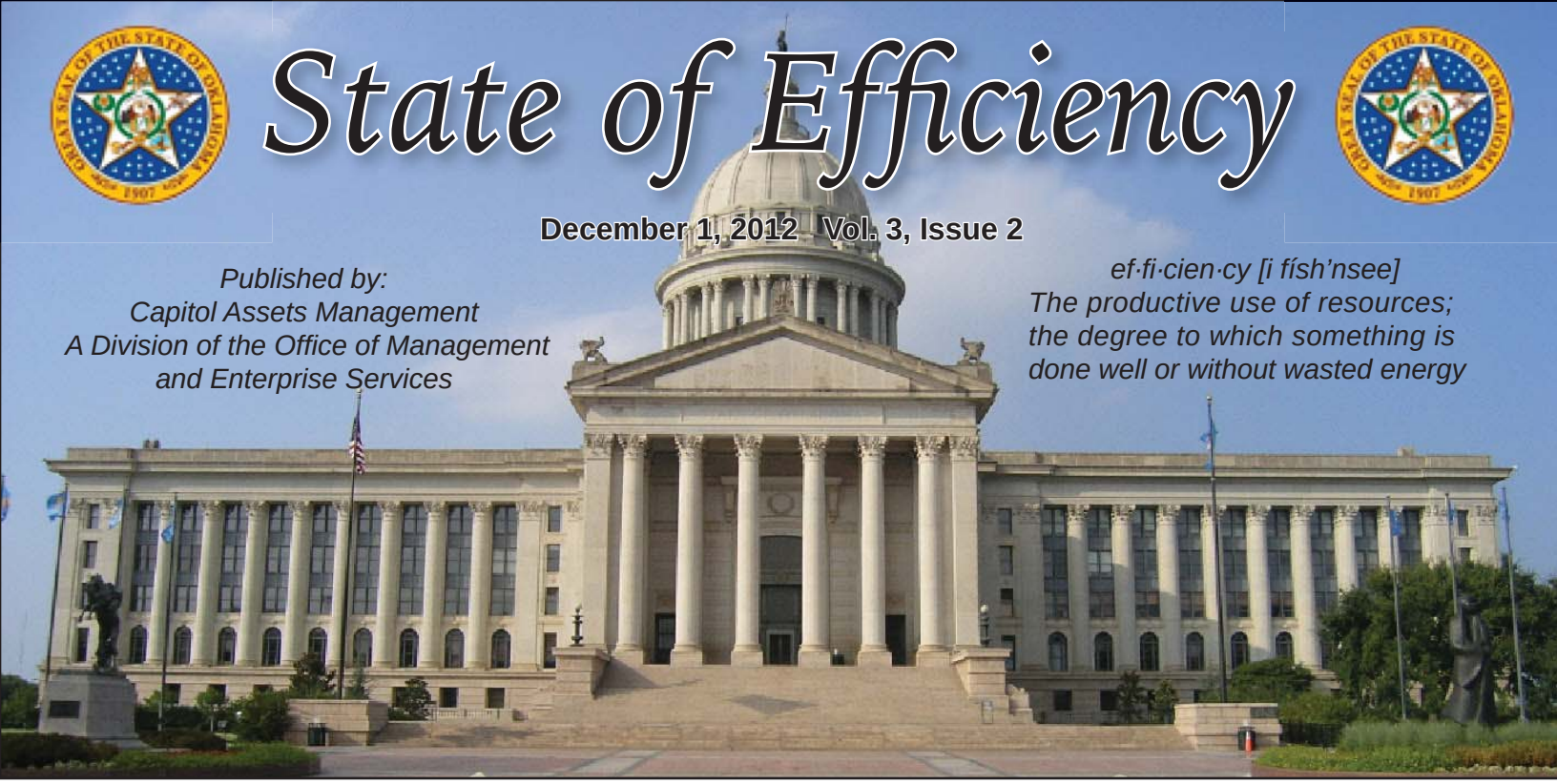
State of Efficiency

December 1, 2012 Vol. 3, Issue 2

Published by:
Capitol Assets Management
A Division of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services

ef·fi·cien·cy [i fish'nsee]
The productive use of resources; the degree to which something is done well or without wasted energy



Oklahoma Improves Energy Rating

In our March edition of the *State of Efficiency*, we reported that earlier this year Oklahoma was ranked 47th by the American Council of Energy Efficient Efforts (ACEEE). A few weeks ago, ACEEE took another look and reported that Oklahoma is now among the three most improved states.

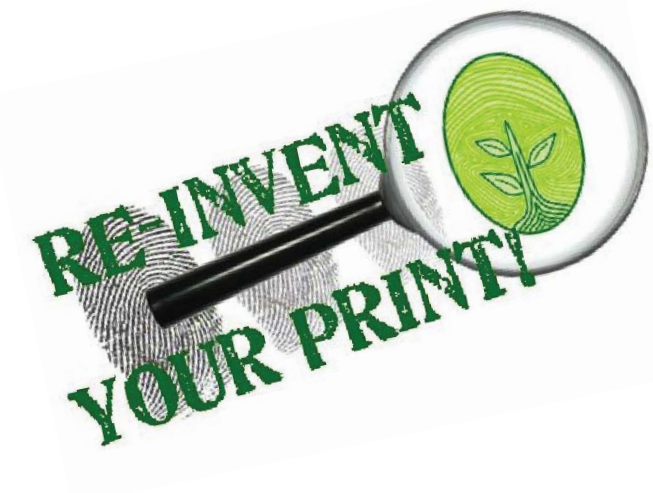
The report quoted Gov. Mary Fallin, "As governor of Oklahoma, making government smaller, smarter, and more efficient is among my top priorities.

Energy inefficiency wastes natural resources and tax dollars that could otherwise be used for essential services like education, transportation, and public safety.

Thanks to efficiency programs by our state utilities, state tax incentives for more energy-efficient construction, and our state plan to achieve 20 percent energy savings by 2020 among all state agencies and entities, Oklahoma is one of the most-improved states on this year's ACEEE scorecard.

With innovative efficiency and conservation policies, Oklahoma is leading the way on energy conservation." *(See Energy page 3.)*

"We, the public servants of the State of Oklahoma, are hereby committed to the conservation of resources and the protection of future generations through the promotion and implementation of sustainable business practices."



In This Issue:

Energy Star Update

DCAM Energy Star Portfolio

Current Average Rating: 84 (out of 100)
Facilities: 12 Energy Star Certified Buildings: 6 (★)

For more information about the Energy Star, the Energy Star rating system, or other aspects of the Energy Star certification program, please visit the EPA's Energy Star website.

Kerr-Edmondson Building
Current Rating: 95 (+3)

Attorney General Building
Current Rating: 79 (E)

Jim Thorpe Building
Current Rating: 85 (+1)

State Capitol Building
Current Rating: 90 (E)

OKDHS-CAP Building
Current Rating: 94 (-2*)

Department of Libraries
Current Rating: 95 (+3)

Agriculture Building
Current Rating: 91 (E)

Department of Transportation Building
Current Rating: 70 (+1)

Banking Building
Current Rating: 60 (E)

Denver-Davison Courts Building
Current Rating: 73 (-15*)

Connors Building
Current Rating: 83 (+5)

Hodge Building
Current Rating: 83 (+5)

Sequoyah Building
Current Rating: 88 (+1)

Will Rogers Building
Current Rating: 89 (+1)

*New space descriptions by Energy Star required the recatagorization of space leading to a decline in rating.

Energy

(Continued from page 1.)
The story can be seen at the ACEEE website. Thanks to the new focus from Gov. Fallin our ranking is now #39. There are tips on our website for how anyone can work to do their part in the effort. Simple things at work, such as shutting down your computer nightly and ensuring excess lighting is off, are small things, but every effort we each make will aid us in becoming a more energy efficient place to live for us now and in the future.

A Final Home for Styrofoam

Styrofoam is a brand name for a substance called expanded polystyrene or EPS. This expanded plastic material is approximately 95% air with the remaining 5% made out of foamed polystyrene plastic; therefore, it is very light weight and has excellent insulation properties. It is also very good for shipping durable goods because it absorbs blows that would damage goods on their way to the consumer.

EPS's light weight makes recycling problematic. To ship a truckload of Styrofoam to the recycler would be like shipping air or close to it, as a 45-foot truckload of loose foam only weighs about 1000 pounds and provides approximately 1,000 pounds of plastic material for recycling. Thus, any gains from recycling would be offset by the fuel costs associated with moving an empty truck around the country.

So how do you make recycling Styrofoam profitable? This problem was solved by running the material through a densifier. These machines use either high pressure or heat to compress the air out of this material. Think of the foam like millions of little balloons which when filled are light and easily moved, but when you remove the air they quickly become heavy as you add balloons to the pile. That's what happens with densified EPS. Instead of a truckload of Styrofoam that weighs 1000 pounds and provides only 1000 pounds of plastic to the recycler, you ship a load that weighs 40,000 pounds and provides 40,000 pounds of recyclable plastic. These techniques for recycling EPS have made it economically feasible.

So where do you go in the Oklahoma City Vicinity to recycle Styrofoam? Visit Goodwill Industries' website, and for more information on all types of recycling, please visit Earth911.com.

Battery Recycling

We use them every day to power all the components of modern life, such as flashlights, radios, and small electronic devices. What do we do with these batteries when they fail us at crucial moments? You might feel like throwing them out of your moving car, running them over, or perhaps setting them on fire as you switch them around trying to squeeze extra juice out of them; maybe just enough to reach the store and purchase some replacements. Even so called “rechargeable batteries” stop working at some point, making us even grumpier. As the saying goes, “nothing lasts forever,” and batteries of any kind are no exception.

So, if you have an interest in the environment, look around to see who recycles batteries and how convenient is it to do. We’re in luck when it comes to rechargeable batteries like lithium ion, lead acid, nickel cadmium, and Nickel Metal Hydride batteries. Most companies that sell electronics and rechargeable batteries take batteries back when they are no longer useful because the components are valuable and hazardous enough to warrant investment in recycling.

That’s all well and good, but what about standard alkaline batteries that are the mostly frequently used? According to the websites of some major battery manufacturers, alkaline batteries contain no hazardous chemicals or metals and can be disposed of in normal household waste.

Unfortunately, according to the battery industry, there are no cost effective and environmentally safe recycling processes for the alkaline battery at this time.

If you wish to recycle common alkaline batteries, there are several mail-in programs available. All of them claim they recycle batteries in an environmentally friendly way. Visit Battery Solutions and The Big Green Box for information on recycling programs.

For more information about battery recycling, visit Environment, Health and Safety Online.

Energy Savings and Renewable Energy Update

Energy Generated

Updated November, 2012

Total Wind	**83,156 kWh**
CO^2 Equivalent	**143,028 lbs**
Total Solar	**307,833 kWh**
CO^2 Equivalent	**439,780 lbs**

Projected Energy Savings

July 2008 through September 2013

Total Energy	**44,277,611 kBtu**
Natural Gas	**60,109 Dth**
Water	**66,515,000 gallons**
Chilled Water	**136,367 TonHr**
Steam	**+578 Mlbs**

Get to Know Your Facilities Professionals!

THE FACTS

Name
Jeff Watson

Occupation
Building Manager

Years with DCAM
3

Special Skills
Carpentry
Stonework

Hometown
Edmond, Oklahoma

After graduating from Edmond High School, Jeff completed multiple deployments in the United States Marine Corps and went on to work in the construction industry. He was involved in various trades and positions and traveled from San Francisco to New York City.

Jeff started working for the state in 2009 as a Construction Maintenance Technician and is now very happy with his position in Facilities Management overseeing the day to day operations and projects going on throughout the Capitol Complex.

Jeff lives in northwest Oklahoma City with his wife Neely, a veterinarian, his 5 year old son, Corbin, and his 2 year old daughter, Emily. He adores spending as much time with his family as possible. Outside of family, Jeff is extremely passionate about hunting and the outdoors, photography, and cooking.

Office of Management and Enterprise Services
Division of Capital Assets Management
State of Oklahoma
Will Rogers Building
2401 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 112
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
(405) 521-3315

Click here to request an accessible version of the State of Efficiency!

This publication is issued by the Office of Management and Enterprise Services as authorized by Title 62, Section 34. Copies have not been printed but are available through the agency website.