

On August 3, 2011 Energy Raters of Massachusetts, Inc. held another training and informational session for it's members. Topics included the following.

Rater technical support for implementing the 2009 IECC and Stretch Code

Discussions and clarifications regarding the details and nuances of the codes were followed by Q&A. New raters walked away with a better understanding of the codes. Follow up handouts will be emailed.

Rater help for navigating the Massachusetts New Home Program

Discussions focused on DCF reporting, followed by Q&A. Future ERM meeting will continue to provide support in these areas.

Using Sketch Up to Simplify plan takeoffs.

The benefits of using Google Sketch Up to quickly and accurately determine areas, volumes, and thermal boundaries were demonstrated. Mike Browne will distribute copies of his customized "Materials Palette" to all ERM Rater members to help make the Sketch UP process more REM/Rate friendly.

The role of ERM as a local voice and lobby for small independent raters.

Past successes ERM has had with influencing the Mass New Homes Program as well as their connections with State code officials and Northeast HERS were reviewed. Recommendations were made that ERM should continue to pursue this role while also engaging a wider range of Massachusetts independent raters.

Energy Raters of Massachusetts, Inc is dedicated to providing training and support for HERS raters while acting as a central voice to represent and empower local independent Raters. ERM urges all independent rating companies as well as rater candidates to suggest topics and join us for our next "open to all" session.
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