Name: Jennifer Allen

Membership Category: Associate

Title: Programs Manager

Company: Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Certifications: LEED AP ID+C

Company description: The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA), is a membership organization of state and local governments, energy utilities, research institutes, manufacturers, energy service providers, and advocacy organizations working to advance energy efficiency in the 13-Midwestern states. Founded in 2000, the nonprofit organization has worked collaboratively with all stakeholders to support programs, policies, education and training initiatives, and emerging technologies that have produced significant energy efficiency investment, energy and cost savings, economic growth, and enhanced environmental preservation across the region.

Last book read: Ready Player One

Last movie seen: Guardians of the Galaxy

My Favorite Vacation City/Country: Seattle, WA

Favorite Sport and Team: College Basketball, Michigan State University Spartans

What has been the most challenging part of your job recently? And, have you made any changes to try and solve some of those issues?: Reaching new audiences for energy efficiency and building operation education and training opportunities in the Midwest. In order to address this, we are reaching out to new groups to assess interest and industry needs for training.

What have been the most important steps in your life (schools, jobs, etc.) that have led you to where you are today?: Being part of the School of Planning Design & Construction at MSU was essential for my interest in sustainable development and career path of energy programs in the Midwest.

Many people who work within the FM world have to act as "leaders" in their jobs. What do you think makes a good leader, and have you done anything recently that has made you a leader?: The best leaders are usually the best listeners.

A year from now, what will you have hoped to accomplish, professionally or personally?: I’d like to participate in several new regional and/or national organizations and events.