



# B3 BENCHMARKING

## newsletter

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## Security Enhancements

As part of our continued commitment to data security we have made some changes that will require tighter password control. Starting this past weekend all users will be required to update their B3 password. Passwords will now require the following:

- one capital letter
- one lowercase letter
- one number
- one special character
- minimum 8 characters

As part of these changes, all B3 users will be prompted to update their B3 password even if the existing password meets all new requirements. B3 users will also be prompted to set security questions. Going forward, the last five recent passwords cannot be re-used and passwords will expire every 90 days. The application will timeout after 20 minutes of inactivity requiring you to log back in.

For those that access other B3 tools and programs, you will now have one password across platforms. You will still need to log into each but utilizing the same password.

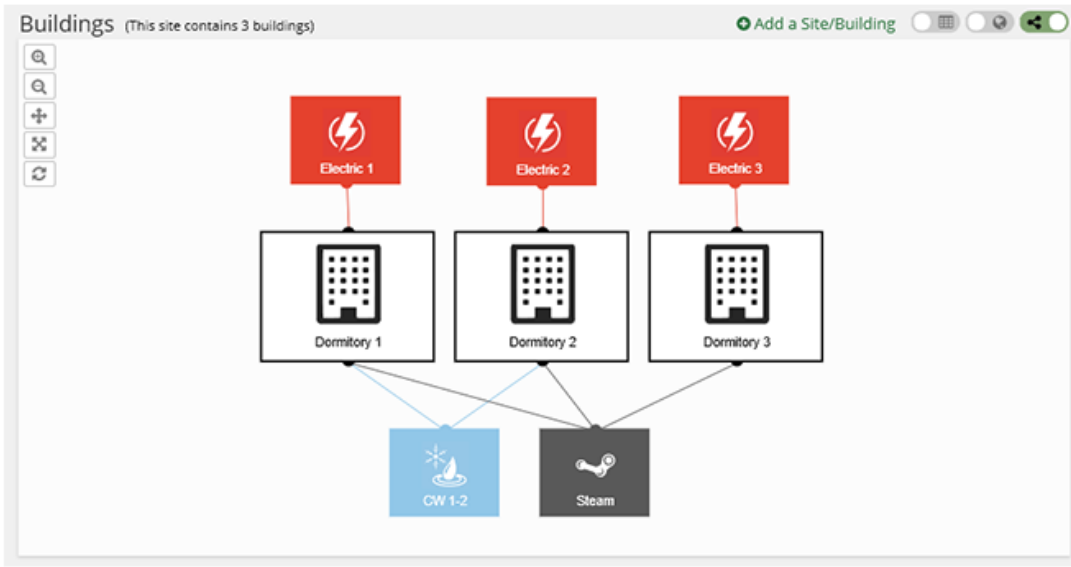
As always, if you've forgotten your password, you can have a link emailed to you to reset your password. Please do not share your credentials with co-workers. Additional users can request access via the [Request Access](#) form.

## ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager - Demand Tracking

ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) has been updated to now allow the tracking of electric demand data. As a result, B3 Benchmarking is now able to send the demand data already tracked in B3 Benchmarking to Portfolio Manager. Conversely, any meters that are connected via the ESPM wizard can import demand data into B3 Benchmarking.

## Diagram View

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, B3 Benchmarking now has a diagram view to visualize how buildings and meters are connected. The diagram view can be accessed at the site level by toggling on the far right control. Drag buildings and meters to best display relationships ensuring accurate connections. Utilize the Connections tab within the meter editor to update relationships. Layouts modified by users with edit access are saved for each site. Users with view access may modify layouts however they are not saved. The controls at the left allow zooming and resetting back to the default layout.



## Best of B3 Awards

The Best of B3 celebration recognizes top sustainable projects and leaders in Minnesota. The State of Minnesota is leading the nation in requiring 70% more energy efficient State buildings in an effort to have all State construction carbon neutral by 2030. Designed to increase energy efficiency and sustainability, the State of Minnesota's Buildings, Benchmarks, and Beyond (B3) programs were developed for and are required on State-funded projects in Minnesota. On October 26, 2017, the third annual Best of B3 Recognition Luncheon was held at International Market Square in Minneapolis to recognize the achievements of B3 program participants. Up to three finalists were recognized in each of eight Best of B3 categories. More information including category finalists can be found [here](#).

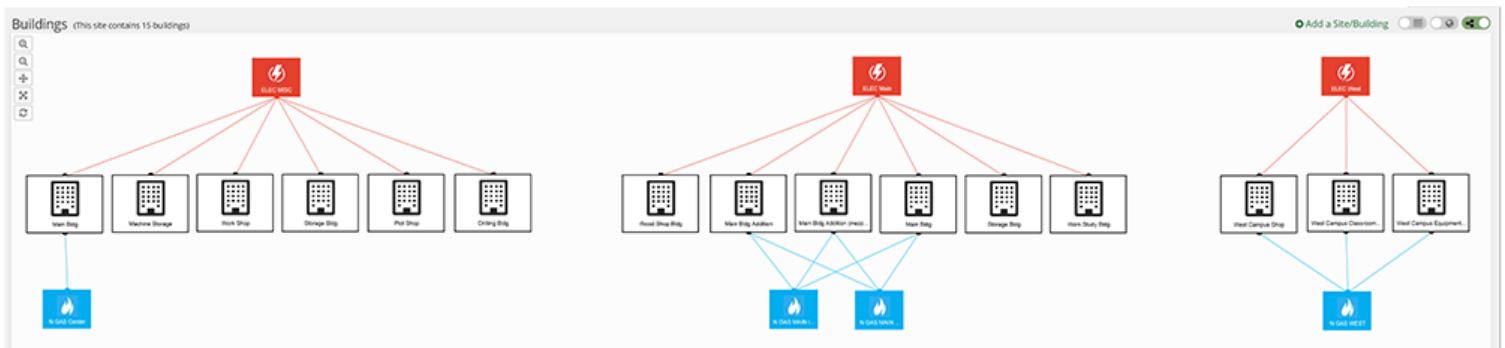
The Best of B3 Benchmarking winners were:

- State Agency: Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board
- Local Government: City of Prior Lake
- Public School: Big Lake Schools
- Higher Ed (tie): Lake Superior College and Minnesota West Community & Technical College – Worthington Campus

## Optimize Your B3 Experience

This section provides hints, tips, and tricks of the trade to make the most of your B3 Benchmarking data. This issue highlights how campuses with large multi-building sites can utilize the diagramming feature to potentially break sites out to get more detailed metrics.

First step is to ensure each meter is accurately connected to the respective buildings it services. This can be done via the connections tab within the meter editor. Once completed, use the diagram view and arrange the buildings and meters. In the example below, the multi-building site can actually be broken into three separate sites. If an electric sub-meter was added to the building on the far left, a fourth site could be created.



Existing building(s) and meter(s) can easily be moved to a new separate site.

1. Create a new non-building site
  - a. Uncheck the default electric meter
  - b. Name the site, specify a custom address and unselect the option that it doesn't contain buildings

The 'Add a New Site/Building' dialog box presents four scenarios for creating a new site or building. The first scenario is highlighted in green: 'Create a new non-building site. Non-building sites are energy consumers like street lights, athletic fields, and lift stations that do not have any physical building structures.' The other scenarios are: 'Create a new building and place it within a new site. The building does not share meters with any building structures already defined.', 'Add a building to an existing site. The building shares meters with other buildings on the site.' (with a 'Site:' dropdown menu set to 'Campus'), and 'Create a new wastewater treatment plant site. You will be required to define a plant flow meter and power meter.'

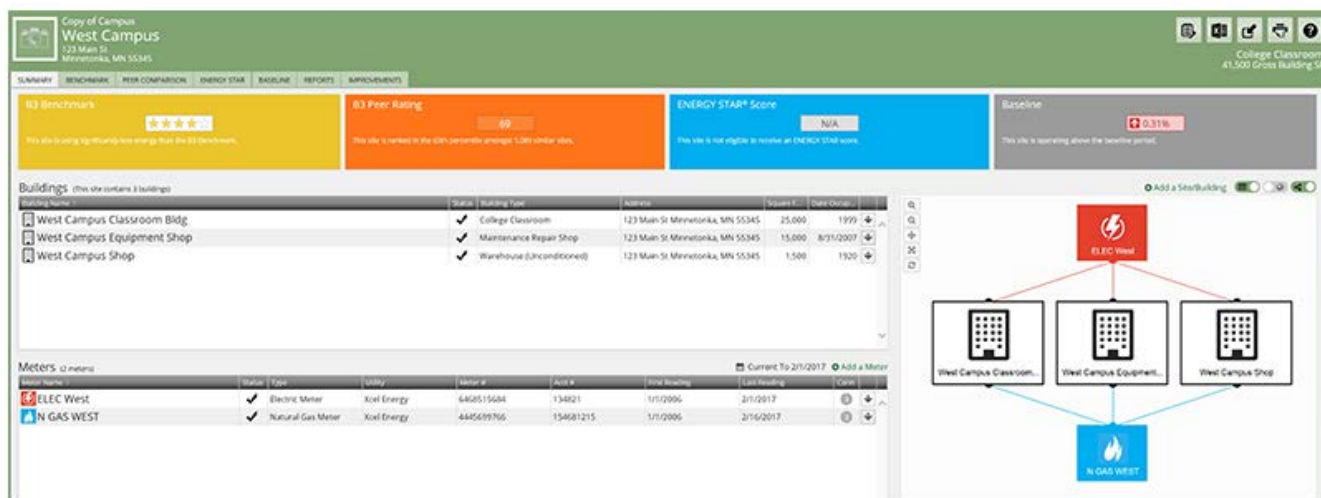
The 'Site Editor' dialog box shows the configuration for a new site. The 'GENERAL' tab is active. The 'Site Name' is 'West Campus' and the 'Active?' checkbox is checked. Under 'Address', the 'Specify a custom site address' radio button is selected. The address fields are: 'Address: 123 Main St', 'City: Minnetonka', 'State: MN', and 'Zip: 55345'. The 'Parent Organization' dropdown is set to 'Copy of Campus'. In the 'Options' section, the checkbox 'This site does not contain any building structures' is unchecked. 'Save & Close' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

2. Move existing data to new site
  - a. Move existing building(s) by changing the Parent Site via the building editor.
  - b. Move existing meter(s) by changing the Parent Site via meter editor – connections tab. Ensure respective buildings are connected to the meter.

The top screenshot shows the 'West Campus Classroom Bldg' building editor. The 'Location' tab is selected. It features a satellite map on the left and a form on the right. The form fields include: 'Building Name: West Campus Classroom Bldg', 'Street Address: 123 Main St', 'City: Minnetonka', 'State: Minnesota', 'ZIP: 55345', 'Occupancy Date: 01/01/1999', 'Comments' (empty text area), 'Parent Org: Copy of Campus', and 'Parent Site: Campus' (with 'West Campus' also visible in the dropdown). The 'Unlocked' checkbox is checked. 'Save & Close' and 'Cancel' buttons are at the bottom right.

The bottom screenshot shows the 'Meter Editor' dialog box, 'CONNECTIONS' tab. It shows 'Parent Org: Copy of Campus' and 'Parent Site: West Campus'. A list of buildings is shown with checkboxes: 'West Campus Classroom Bldg' (checked), 'West Campus Equipment Shop' (checked), and 'West Campus Shop' (checked). At the bottom, there is a 'Check All | Uncheck All' link and an unchecked checkbox for 'This meter is not connected to any buildings'.

For this example, West Campus is now a separate site with detailed metrics as to how these three buildings are performing.



## Upcoming Events

Join the B3 Team at the following workshops to learn more.

### Capturing Savings: SE CERTS Public Building Energy Benchmarking Workshop

- Friday, December 1st in Oronoco, 9:30am - 12:30pm
- Additional details and registration found [here](#).

### GreenStep Cities Workshop: Benchmarking Wastewater Treatment Plants

- Wednesday, December 6th in St. Cloud, 8:30am - 12:00pm
- Open to the public with additional details and registration found [here](#).

New to Benchmarking? [Contact us](#) to provide an overview.