



# MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



**MAY 4, 2020  
MEETINGS**

**5/21/20 – TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR**

## **PUGET SOUND CHAPTER, NECA & CORONAVIRUS UPDATES**

Another beautiful Monday Morning in the great Pacific Northwest!!

As construction continues to move forward with “Phase 1” of the Governor’s pathway, to slowly return Washington State to some sense of normalcy, NECA cautions all contractors to spend the bulk of your energy ensuring that all facets of Phase 1 are met on your active jobsites. The most counterproductive thing to do at this point, would be to relax and give the jobsite protections and social distancing requirements less than our full commitment and attention. Phase 2, 3, and 4 are fully contingent upon nailing Phase 1 and showing skeptics that everyone can act responsibly in these difficult times.

NECA will continue to monitor the changing landscape as it applies to safety requirements/PPE, unemployment comp, Payment Protection Program updates, and all of the other business related matters that are becoming the “new normal”. Please continue to share any information you receive or concerns you encounter with the Chapter Office. NECA continues to work with L.U. 46, to ensure we are all involved with providing a safe work environment, while adapting to the very unique circumstances facing everyone as we move forward.

Stay safe and “Let’s be careful out there!”

## CHART: WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH

WASHINGTON'S PHASED APPROACH Reopening Business and Modifying Physical Distancing Measures				
	<b>1</b> Phase 1	<b>2</b> Phase 2	<b>3</b> Phase 3	<b>4</b> Phase 4
<b>High-Risk Populations*</b>	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Continue to Stay Home, Stay Healthy	Resume public interactions, with physical distancing
<b>Recreation</b>	Some outdoor recreation (hunting, fishing, golf, boating, hiking)	All outdoor recreation involving fewer than 5 people outside your household (camping, beaches, etc.)	- Outdoor group rec. sports activities (5-50 people) - Recreational facilities at <50% capacity (public pools, etc.)	Resume all recreational activity
<b>Gatherings (social, spiritual)</b>	- None - Drive in spiritual service with one household per vehicle	Gather with no more than 5 people outside your household per week	Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people	Allow gatherings with >50 people
<b>Travel</b>	Only essential travel	Limited non-essential travel within proximity of your home	Resume non-essential travel	Continue non-essential travel
<b>Business/Employers</b>	- Essential businesses open - Existing construction that meet agreed upon criteria - Landscaping - Automobile sales - Retail (curb-side pick-up orders only) - Car washes - Pet walkers	- Remaining manufacturing - New construction - In-home/domestic services (nannies, housecleaning, etc.) - Retail (in-store purchases allowed with restrictions) - Real estate - Professional services/office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Hair and nail salons/Barbers - Housecleaning - Restaurants <50% capacity table size no larger than 5	- Restaurants <75% capacity/ table size no larger than 10 - Bars at <25% capacity - Indoor gyms at <50% capacity - Movie theaters at <50% capacity - Government (telework remains strongly encouraged) - Libraries - Museums - All other business activities not yet listed except for nightclubs and events with greater than 50 people	- Nightclubs - Concert venues - Large sporting events - Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites, but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene

\* High-risk populations are currently defined by CDC as: persons 65 years of age and older; people of all ages with underlying medical conditions (particularly not well controlled) including people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, people who have serious heart conditions, people who are immunocompromised, people with severe obesity, people with diabetes, people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, and people with liver disease; people who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility.

## COVID-19: SAFETY RESOURCES FOR PHASE 1 RESTART WORK

The Chapter has recently published safety resources to help NECA Members comply with the safety requirements that are specified in the Phase 1 restart letter. To access the most up to date information related to COVID, please visit <https://www.necawa.org/> and click the link "COVID-19." If your company needs any specific guidance relating to safety, do not hesitate to reach out to Director of Safety, Justin Thayer. He can be reached by phone at 425-330-9024 or email [justin@necaseattle.org](mailto:justin@necaseattle.org).

## WARREN BUFFETT IS OPTIMISTIC? PESSIMISTIC? NO, REALISTIC

If you listened closely to Warren Buffett over the weekend during Berkshire Hathaway's Shareholders' Meeting, his words often betrayed a deep sense of concern about the immediate future. While many of the headlines about the meeting were about Buffett's positive aphorisms, "Nothing can basically stop America," "You can bet on America," underneath those long-term proclamations was a decidedly different message. He was careful to say the markets would improve in the long term, though his time frame for certainty was decades, not months or not even necessarily years from now. About the current climate, he said, "You can bet on America, but you kind of have to be careful about how you bet." He added, "simply because markets can do anything." At a time when the stock market has been buoyed by politicians

pushing to reopen America and hopeful investors often willing to overlook the immediate economic carnage, Buffett sounded a note of realism about the challenges ahead.

He talked about the possibility of a second wave of coronavirus infections. He acknowledged that the world might profoundly change for years to come. He spent a notable portion of the meeting detailing the stock market's performance since 1789, with a focus on the years between 1929 and 1951, a period in which the market took 22 years to get back to its highs.

More than his words, he spoke with his wallet. He usually relishes a down stock market to take advantage of lower prices. Not this time. He hadn't made any purchases recently; he didn't buy up stocks when they had fallen last month during what felt like a mini-panic: "We have not done anything, because we don't see anything that attractive to do."

In truth, he has always been cautious. He has always been more willing to lose out on an opportunity than to jump too soon. "I don't worry about the things that I miss," he often says.

If there is a silver lining, it is that Buffett was not predicting doom and gloom, just that he wasn't sure which way we are headed, though, of course, he is wishing for the best. If the right deal came along, he would jump, he said.

"The American miracle, the American magic has always prevailed, and it will do so again," he said.

At a time of such polarized political battles about reopening and seeming uncertainty among many business leaders and investors about what should happen next, Buffett's humble approach is something we should all take to heart: "I don't believe anyone knows what the market is going to do tomorrow, next week, next month, next year."

## **NECA MEMBERS RECEIVE SPECIAL OFFERS ON DELL PRODUCTS**



Dell provides NECA members with exclusive savings on the products that power their business. The discount is available for Dell branded desktops, notebooks, servers, electronics and accessories, including rugged devices, perfect for job sites and field operation, and precision workstations designed for advanced graphics and business applications.

In addition to saving up to 40% off the everyday price, Members also receive free on-site technical consultations from a certified Dell representative.

Visit [www.dell.com/NECA](http://www.dell.com/NECA) to take advantage of this offer.

**ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY 1979**– Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative Party, is sworn in as Britain's first female prime minister. The Oxford-educated chemist and lawyer was sworn in the day after the Conservatives won a 44-seat majority in general parliamentary elections.



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“Doubt and fear steal more dreams than failure does.”

**Darren Hardy**

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As of Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, there are 228 JW on Book 1 and 123 JW on Book 2. There are currently 45 Commercial Apprentices, 1 S&C Apprentice, and 0 Residential Apprentices available for dispatch. There are 0 unfilled Commercial, 0 unfilled S&C and 0 unfilled Residential Apprentice requests.