



ADDITIONS HIGHLIGHTED

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REGION 3 MEMBERS & PRIORITY PROJECTS

Get to know your fellow partnership communities and their priority projects. We offer this in hopes of making connections to target future joint projects. If there is a town or project, you would like more information about let me help make the connection!

Bethel, Carrabassett Valley, Carthage, Chesterville, Farmington, Greenwood, Hallowell, Jay, Norway, Lisbon, Otisfield, Paris, Poland, Waterford, and Woodstock.

[LEARN MORE](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Agriculture

New England Farmer Microgrants Program (CLOSES NOV. 4)

The program seeks to address some of the key barriers faced by farmers in the region: access to farmland, farm succession/transfer planning, and the adoption of regenerative farming Credits to the [Community Resilience Partnership](#) Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative for compiling this information and allowing its distribution. Additional region-specific contributions by AVCOG.

practices. Funding source: Infrastructure Investment and Job Act. The non-federal match is 20% of the total project value.

[LEARN MORE](#)

The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Technical Assistance Grant (CLOSES NOV. 15)

Grants to help farmers, processors and food entrepreneurs access technical assistance for their business. These funds are for professional consultation and services for business planning, financial analysis or record-keeping development, market research to assess new markets, legal consultation for succession planning or incorporating branding and logo design, and similar technical support work.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) 2023 Farmer Grants (CLOSES NOV. 15)

The Call for 2023 Northeast SARE Farmer Grants is now available. Approximately \$750,000 has been allocated to fund projects for this grant cycle. Awards typically range from \$5,000 to \$30,000, depending upon a project's complexity and duration. Northeast SARE Farmer Grants provide the resources farmers need to explore new concepts in sustainable agriculture conducted through experiments, surveys, prototypes, on-farm demonstrations or other research and education techniques. Projects address issues that affect farming with long-term sustainability in mind.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Energy

Efficiency Maine Incentives for Small Municipality Retrofits HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration (CLOSES AUG. 31, 2023)

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, and refrigeration projects in government facilities of small Maine municipalities and Tribes. Eligible applicants with qualifying projects receive enhanced purchasing incentives intended to accelerate the conversion to high-efficiency equipment in municipal and tribal government buildings across the state.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Belvedere Historic Preservation Energy Audit Grants (NO DEADLINE)

The Belvedere Historic Preservation and Energy Efficiency Grant Program invests in the preservation, restoration, and retrofitting of historic buildings in Maine. Energy audit grants are specifically for the cost of an energy audit of a historic building. Criteria: All applicants must meet the Maine Community Foundation's grant eligibility requirements. To receive a grant for an energy audit, the building must, be owned by a nonprofit organization or municipality or quasi-municipal entity, and be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, be determined eligible for listing on the Register, or be a contributing building in a nationally designated historic district. The maximum amount awarded for an energy audit is \$5,000. Energy Audit Grant applications

may be submitted at any time. Requests will be considered as they are received and decisions will be made within 4 weeks of submission.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Infrastructure

Municipal Stream Crossing Grant Program (CLOSES NOV. 10)

Allocation: \$3 million. Funds from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan will expand the Municipal Stream Crossing Grant Program, which provides local governments and organizations competitive grants up to \$125,000 towards the upgrade of undersized and failing culvert stream crossings on municipal roads. Administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, this program will help more communities upgrade municipal culverts at stream crossings to cost-effectively improve fish and wildlife habitats, reduce flooding, and increase community safety.

Read the [Request for Application](#) (RFA)

[LEARN MORE](#)

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Funding (CLOSES DEC. 1)

The BRIC program is a hazard mitigation assistance program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that provides funding for proactive investment in community resilience and projects that seek to mitigate the impacts of hazards and climate change before a disaster occurs. The BRIC program includes a national-competitive grant program and a state allocation for state-competitive grants. For the coming year, \$1.5 million in funding is available for state-competitive grants. The amount available for national grants will be announced in August.

For more information about FEMA funding opportunities, please contact Heather Dumais, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, for application and eligibility criteria at (207) 441-9510 or heather.dumais@maine.gov.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Flood Mitigation Assistance (CLOSES JAN. 27, 2023)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local governments to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It does so with a recognition of the growing flood hazards associated with climate change, and of the need for flood hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation, equity, and resilience with respect to flooding. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in intensity and frequency in the future.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Federal Highway Administration Culvert Grants (CLOSES FEB. 6, 2023)

The Federal Highway Administration is accepting applications from states, tribes and local governments for grants of \$10,000 to \$200,000 to improve or restore anadromous fish passage

through the replacement, removal, repair, or improvement of culverts or weirs. Anadromous fish species are born in freshwater such as streams and rivers, spend most of their lives in the marine environment, and migrate back to freshwater to spawn.

Click below to learn more or contact your Regional Planning Organization.

[LEARN MORE](#)

USDA RD Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant (OPEN)

This program provides affordable funding through low interest direct loans, grants and a combination to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses.

What can the funds be used for?

- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars or street improvements
- Community support services such as childcare centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses.

What are the funding priorities?

- Priority point system based on population, median household income
 - Small communities with a population of 5,500 or less
 - Low-income communities having a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Resilience

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Funding (Details Coming Soon)

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) was signed into federal law August 16th, 2022. Designed to slow inflation and stabilize the economy, it has 18 different funding programs, 11 of which are directed to local governments. These programs will fund implementation of energy efficiency efforts, GHG reduction strategies, and more. Most of the programs have special provisions for low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Programs for Local Governments:

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (the Green Bank) grants to reduce community and private sector GHGs
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grants to implement GHG reductions
- Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption
- Improve Efficiency, Water, Resilience of Affordable Housing for projects that improve sustainability, efficiency & resilience
- Low Emissions Electricity Program funding for education, technical assistance, and outreach related to reducing GHGs from electricity production
- Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles to cover up to 100% of costs for replacing gasoline powered heavy duty vehicles with zero-emissions ones

- Neighborhood Access and Equity Grant Program supports building or improving complete streets, multi-use trails, regional greenways, and transportation networks
- Investing in Coastal Communities and Climate Resilience
- Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants

[VIEW THE IRA GUIDEBOOK TO LEARN MORE](#)

Transportation

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (CLOSES NOV. 17)

Efficiency Maine is pleased to announce a new funding opportunity for Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers that are available to the public in rural communities. The goal of this round of funding is to assist rural communities in the state's 14 northern counties (i.e., all counties except Cumberland County and York County), where public EV chargers are less common, to enhance those communities' capacity to attract commerce and tourism as EVs become the dominant form of transportation. Developing comprehensive coverage of public EV chargers throughout the state will also encourage EV adoption in all parts of Maine.

This opportunity will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis and local governments, businesses, and nonprofits in eligible rural towns are encouraged to apply on the Efficiency Maine website. Quick read 1 page program [factsheet](#).

[LEARN MORE](#)

Tactical Urbanism Lightning Grants (NO DEADLINE)

Projects may be transportation-focused (road diets, bike lanes, traffic calming, signage) or community enhancement (park or plaza activation, art installations, pop-up parks, or other public engagement ideas). Formalize or enhance a neighborhood trail link or shortcut. Projects are for up to \$1,000 and are awarded on a rolling basis. Projects could include: Install a protected bike lane, Paint a new crosswalk, Activate an underutilized public space, Activate a vacant lot, Reallocate underutilized road space for public life, Arrow travel lanes to slow vehicular speed, and Add stop signs to improve intersection safety.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Workforce Transportation Funding Opportunity (NO DEADLINE)

The Workforce Transportation Pilot program, an initiative of Governor Mills' Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, to pursue and develop transportation solutions that connect workers with employers across Maine. The \$5M program will provide competitive grants of up to \$750,000 to local and regional partnerships to pilot ways to connect workers and employers through ridesharing, vanpools, and other subsidized transit options.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative (NO DEADLINE)

The Village Partnership Initiative is designed to be available to all willing communities that have or can agree upon a local vision. Village projects can vary from small, spot improvements to large, once-in-a-lifetime investments if we can successfully partner to access federal discretionary funds through earmarks or BIL grants. Depending upon the vision of each individual municipality, we can look to make investments in the lower-speed areas where people meet, shop, and do business. These village areas need to be built on a human scale: walkable, bicycle-friendly, and business-friendly.

These projects can range from gateway treatments, marking the beginning of a village area to help slow traffic, to improving pedestrian crossings and ADA compliance. They may also be used to enhance on-street parking, improve sidewalks, etc.

- Municipal Property Valuation less than \$150M, 70% State, 30% Municipal
- Municipal Property Valuation a\$150M to \$350M, 60% State, 40% Municipal
- Municipal Property Valuation >\$350M, 50% State, 50% Municipal

The maximum amount of the agreement will be dependent on the complexity of the project and the amount of design needed to be competitive on the federal level. These are complex projects and will take several years to develop.

[LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS

Building & Codes

\$25 Builder Training

Monday, December 14, 9:00 am-3:00 pm
Brewer Auditorium 318 Wilson St. Brewer ME
Instructors: Erik Durbas, Svea Tullberg, Randy Poulton.

With the new update to Maine's building codes—and the increased importance of sustainability—we want to share this training. This training will teach new and experienced builders about (1) meeting the new MUBEC building and health codes as well as (2) understanding and implementing the most effective and modern practices for building long-lasting, low-carbon structures. This in-person, one-day builder training, the focus will be on clarifying myths of advanced building, including air sealing strategies and thermal bridge mitigation as it relates to understanding the MUBEC code as well as the Stretch Code. We will include an introduction to materials that enhance building success as well as parsing the cost benefits. For this single-day event, the goal is not to get lost in the minutia, but to provide a clear understanding of the principles behind the new codes and a pathway for gaining more information. You can email info@passivhausmaine.org for more information on this or other trainings.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Infrastructure

Maine Stormwater Conference

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 1st and 2nd
Portland, Maine

The Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District's Maine Stormwater Conference in Portland, Maine will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act with two days of presentations showcasing innovation and embracing challenges from the past 50 years.

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER](#)

Leadership

Influencer – Leading Change Training

Monday – Friday, November 14 – 18, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Zoom Workshops

The Coastal Training Programs of the Wells and Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR)

Influencer training presents valuable strategies for leaders working to build resilience in their communities and organizations. Learn how to solve long-term, persistent, and resistant problems. Based on 50 years of social science research, the course teaches a change model that can increase your influence and ability to change environmental behaviors to benefit coastal communities. The course is being offered in October and November.

Register for the November session: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/329032484017>

Building Your Virtual Facilitation Skills (BYVFS)

Fall 2022 Series: Five Live Weekly Sessions, November 15 – December 13, 2022

Spring 2023 Series: Five Live Weekly Sessions, March 22 – April 19, 2022

This course will help you become a better facilitator in a rapidly evolving virtual world. The global pandemic impacted our daily routines in many ways, including the transition of in-person meetings to virtual platforms. Do you find yourself leading more virtual groups? Would you like to improve engagement? Better manage the group's process and challenges? Have more confidence with the multiple aspects of virtual technology? Adapt proven techniques and tools for a virtual environment?

Explore the emerging best practices of virtual facilitation skills. This course builds on the well-known Strengthening Your Facilitation Skills Level One training. We will build confidence and practice skills in a safe, supportive environment.

[REGISTER FOR FALL SESSIONS](#)

[REGISTER FOR SPRING SESSIONS](#)

Building Your Virtual Facilitation Skills: Train-the-Trainer Series

Fall 2022 Series: Five Live Weekly Sessions, November 15 – December 13, 2022

Spring 2023 Series: Five Live Weekly Sessions, March 22 – April 19, 2022

For experienced facilitators interested in expanding their facilitation skills and implementing this training program as instructors, we are offering a Train-the-Trainer course concurrent with the core Building Your Virtual Facilitation Skills training. These sessions will explore best practices for working virtually with groups and provide technical support for adapting and implementing the training.

[REGISTER FOR FALL SESSIONS](#)

[REGISTER FOR SPRING SESSIONS](#)

OTHER GRANT RESOURCE PAGES

General

[Resilience Grants Guide](#)

State and federal funding opportunities from the Maine Climate Change Adaptation Providers Network

[Federal Funding Guide](#)

New England Environmental Finance Center (NEEFC)

[State and Federal Funding Inventory](#)

New England Environmental Finance Center Southern New England Program (SNEP)
Clearinghouse of federal, state, and philanthropic grant opportunities relative to stormwater/watershed management, ecological restoration and climate resilience.

Transportation

[Federal Transportation Funding Matrix](#)

US Department of Transportation (USDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
List of competitive grant programs used to fund various types of transportation projects and activities. Includes many funding opportunities for local and tribal governments.

Land Conservation and Agriculture

[State Land Conservation and Access – Land for Maine's Future Programs](#)

Maine Department of Agriculture Conservation and Forestry Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning
A list of programs designed to conserve land for natural and recreational value.

OTHER RESOURCES

Maine Climate Adaptation Providers Network

Compilation of resources and tools for climate preparedness in Maine.

[VIEW HERE](#)

Maine Department of Transportation Projects Storymap

Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) has a helpful tool for municipalities and the general public – a media-rich, interactive story map of MDOT's three-year Work Plan for statewide infrastructure. The Work Plan describes all work planned by MaineDOT and its transportation partners for calendar years 2022, 2023, and 2024. The Work Plan includes all capital projects and programs, maintenance and operations activities, planning initiatives, and administrative functions through December 31st, 2024.

Interested in knowing which projects MDOT has planned in your area? Want to learn how MDOT incorporates climate adaptation into their projects?

[VIEW THE INTERACTIVE STORYMAP](#)

Maine Department of Transportation Assets Priority List

A helpful summary of information about Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT)'s methodology to provide a fair, structured framework to prioritize programs and projects.

[VIEW THE PRIORITY LIST](#)

GrowSmart Maine Community Guide: Historic Preservation - An Economic Opportunity

Learn how historic preservation supports economic opportunities. This Community Guide was authored by Greg Paxton, Former Maine Preservation Executive Director and Lynne Seeley, Community Planning Consultant. GrowSmart Maine's Community Guides provide citizen planners with information and tools to make informed policies and decisions on various planning topics.

[VIEW AND DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

Roadmap for PFAS Support

The Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) has created this resource document for farmers navigating questions around PFAS, available testing resources and financial assistance pathways. This document currently has links to many other existing resources, programs and PFAS support information and gets updated regularly as support systems are further designed.

[VIEW AND DOWNLOAD THE DOCUMENT](#)

Municipal EV Toolkit

Developed by the Greater Portland Council of Governments and Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission, the EV Readiness Toolkit aims to help local leaders understand the opportunities available to electrify municipal vehicles. The toolkit provides technical guidance on encouraging EV adoption, fleet transitions and infrastructure development and provides decision-makers with up-to-date information on EVs in Maine, direct guidance on best practices and timely information on technologies that municipalities can use to improve their EV readiness. [VIEW HERE](#)

Solar Development

Helpful guidance for municipalities for Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission regarding the legal landscape for planning and regulating the development of large-scale solar arrays. [VIEW HERE](#)