

Events, Workshops, and Funding for Communities and Service Providers

Bi-monthly newsletter/email/outreach content for you to glean from. Take from this whatever is useful to you and your community (or communities). Use it in your own newsletters and outreach content or for your own benefit in the work you do.



VERSION: 5-9-23

Blue Highlighted = New Content

Helpful Notes:

Resources and Grants+ lists are now a separate document. Click [HERE](#) to access.

This document is available as a Downloadable PDF. In this Google Docs application, go to File → Download → PDF Document (.pdf)

See opportunities here you'd like to learn more about but don't have time to research? Have projects you'd like to find funding for? We're here to help!

[CONTACT US](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

All / Various

Target Applicant: Municipal and Tribal Governments

Note: Available Grants funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law are also listed in various sections of this document.

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funding

The **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)** 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 coastal resilience projects. Most of the programs have special provisions for low-income and disadvantaged communities. Go to the State's new website for **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding opportunities** to learn more. [VIEW THE SITE](#)

Agriculture & Food Systems

Regional Food System Partnership (RFSP) Grant Program

Target Applicant: See Eligibility below

Administered by USDA, this annual program, also created within the Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP), supports partnerships that plan and develop relationships between local and regional producers, processors, intermediaries, and institutional markets or institutional food service operations, focusing on strengthening the viability and resilience of regional food economies through collaboration and coordination. Proposed project must fall within one of three types of defined grant categories, with caps ranging from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000, with a 25% match required. *Eligibility: Partnerships are eligible to apply to RFSP. A partnership is an agreement between one or more eligible entities and one or more eligible partners. Eligible entities include producers, farmer or rancher cooperatives, producer networks or associations, majority-controlled producer-based business venture, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) networks and associations, food councils, local governments, nonprofit and public benefit corporations, economic development corporations, regional farmers' market authorities, and tribal governments. Eligible partners include state agencies or regional authorities, philanthropic corporations, private corporations, institutions of higher education, and commercial, federal, or Farm Credit System Lending Institutions. Application deadline is May 2. [LEARN MORE](#)*

Greenhouse Plastic Recycling Program

Target Applicant: Agricultural producers, anyone with large quantities of LDPE#4 to recycle

This statewide agricultural plastic collection program administered through the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) is now accepting bundles of low-density polyethylene (LDPE#4) clear film used to cover greenhouses, high tunnels and other agricultural structures. Also accepted are white overwintering LDPE#4 film.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant

Target Applicant: Licensed dairy processors of all scales

Administered by the Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC), this program will fund existing dairy processing facilities located in the Northeast region with a focus on expanding utilization of regionally sourced milk and diversifying the supply chain. Projects funded through this grant will focus primarily on acquiring specialized equipment needed to increase processing capacity through volume expansion and existing product line expansion. This grant program is split into three funding tiers to accommodate processors of all scales. The two lower tiers (for smaller scale processors) are open for applications now, with a **pre-application deadline of May 11.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

Energy

Clean Energy to Communities Program (C2C)

Technical Assistance Grant

Target Applicant: Municipal and Tribal Governments in partnership with electric utilities and community-based organizations

U.S. Department of Energy and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) C2C connects local governments, tribes, electric utilities, and community-based organizations with national laboratory experts and customized, cutting-edge analysis to achieve clean energy systems that are reflective of local and regional priorities. By bringing together innovative technology, state-of-the-art modeling, and unique abilities to test clean energy plans before installing them in the field, C2C can help close the gap between clean energy ambitions and real-world deployment. C2C fosters community-led innovation with tailored support, from goal-setting and project development to technology deployment. Three types of support are available: in-depth partnerships, peer-learning cohorts, and expert match. **Application Deadline is May 8.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP)

Target Applicant: Remote and island communities

What role can marine, hydropower, solar, geothermal, wind, and other renewable energy technologies play in improving your community's energy resilience? Remote and island communities can find answers when they apply to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP). The partnership combines local knowledge, support from regional institutions, and national expertise from the DOE and national labs like NREL to help communities overcome unique energy resilience challenges. By participating in ETIPP, communities receive substantial support from ETIPP experts in the form of technical assistance in energy analysis and planning. Each community is also supported by an ETIPP regional partner that can assist with identifying a community's needs and options and developing their goals. **Applications are due by May 19.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

Efficiency Maine HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration Project Incentives for Schools

Target Applicant: Public schools associated with – Maine School Administrative District (MSAD), Regional School Unit (RSU), Community School District (CSD), Alternative Organization Structures (ASO), Unions of Towns

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for projects that will help schools accelerate the conversion to high-efficiency equipment. Schools can apply to receive purchasing incentives for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting and refrigeration

projects. The program is specifically focused on Maine's public schools in smaller towns and districts. Application Deadline is May 31.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Belvedere Historic Preservation and Energy Efficiency Energy Audit Grants

Target Applicant: Nonprofits, municipalities, or quasi-municipal entities

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. Application Deadline is June 1.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Federal Solar Tax Credits for Businesses, Nonprofits, and Municipal and Tribal Governments

Target Applicant: Businesses, nonprofits, and municipal and tribal governments

There are two federal tax credits available for businesses and other entities like nonprofits and local and tribal governments that purchase solar energy systems: The investment tax credit (ITC) is a tax credit that reduces the federal income tax liability for a percentage of the cost of a solar system that is installed during the tax year. The production tax credit (PTC) is a per kilowatt-hour (kWh) tax credit for electricity generated by solar and other qualifying technologies for the first 10 years of a system's operation. It reduces the federal income tax liability and is adjusted annually for inflation. Organizations that don't pay federal taxes, like non-profits or local governments, can take advantage of the tax credits through either direct pay or a transfer of credit.

[LEARN MORE](#). Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in Region 1 may contact R1CC Co-lead [Karina Greater](#) for guidance.

Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grants in Maine

Target Applicant: Rural small businesses and agricultural producers

This program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing. [LEARN MORE](#) or connect with your Regional Planning Organization or contact [Brian Wilson](#), Maine program contact.

Low-Cost Solar Loans for Businesses

Target Applicant: Small businesses with priority given to BIPOC-, women-, or immigrant-owned

Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI) is offering 2.75-3.5% interest loans for small businesses looking to install solar panels at their business. Funds are limited and priority will be given to businesses that are BIPOC-, women-, or immigrant-owned. Based on demand, loans may be capped in size. [LEARN MORE](#)

Coming Later this Year

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)

Target Applicant: Municipal and Tribal Governments

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) provides federal grants to states, units of local government, and Indian tribes to assist eligible entities in implementing strategies to reduce fossil fuel emissions, to reduce total energy use, and to improve energy efficiency. Competitive federal grants will be made available later this year. We will keep you apprised! Learn more about the competitive EECBG program [HERE](#). Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in Region 1 may contact R1CC Co-lead [Karina Greater](#) for guidance.

Coming Later this Year

Energy Efficiency Materials Pilot Program for Nonprofits

Target Applicant: Nonprofit Organizations

The Energy Efficiency Materials Pilot Program for Nonprofits is a new U.S. Department of Energy program to provide nonprofit organizations with funding to upgrade building materials to improve energy efficiency, lower utility costs, and reduce carbon emissions. Eligible uses include: roof or lighting systems or components of the system; windows; doors; heating, ventilation, or air conditioning systems or components of the systems (including insulation and wiring and plumbing improvements needed to serve a more efficient system). A great opportunity for non-municipal libraries, community centers, and community organizations.

[LEARN MORE](#) and sign up to receive program email updates

Coming Later this Year or Early Next Year

Grants for Energy Improvements at Public School Facilities

Target Applicant: K-12 Public Schools

The Renew America's Schools Grant funds clean energy improvements at K-12 public schools. Funds can cover Energy efficiency (envelope, HVAC, lighting, controls, etc.), ventilation, renewable energy, alternative vehicles, and alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure improvements. The first round of the program has closed, but another round is expected later in 2023 or early 2024. Start planning now!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Coming Later this Year or Early Next Year

Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA)

Target Applicant: Industry Partners and other For-profit Entities; Utilities; Institutions of Higher Education; State and Local Governments; Community Based Organizations and other Non-profit Entities; Tribal; Environmental Groups; and Cities, Towns, or Unincorporated Areas with populations of fewer than 10,000 inhabitants

This program seeks to improve the resilience, reliability, and affordability of energy systems in communities across the country with 10,000 or fewer people. Funding can support overall cost-effectiveness of energy generation, transmission, or distribution systems; siting or upgrading transmission and distribution lines; reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation by rural or remote areas; providing or modernizing electric generation facilities; developing microgrids; and increasing energy efficiency. This spring's round of the program has closed, but another round is expected later in 2023 or early 2024. Start planning now!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Coming Later this Year

Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program

Target Applicant: Various – state, municipal, tribal and private non-profit and for-profit entities

This program is designed to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change and to accelerate the deployment of transformative projects that will help to ensure the reliability of the power sector's infrastructure, so all American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity anytime, anywhere. Three different programs for private and public entities. Next round of funding opens later this year.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#) or contact Allie Rand in the Governor's Energy Office
Allie.Rand@maine.gov

Coming Later this Year

Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants (REDA)

Target Applicant: State and local governments, federally-recognized tribes, land-grant college or university or other institutions of higher education, rural electric cooperatives

Funding for conducting and promoting energy audits, technical assistance, and site assessments. Grant period for this year has closed but will reopen later in 2023.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#) or contact [Brian Wilson](#), Maine program contact.

Environmental Justice

Young Black Climate Leaders (YBCL) Futures Fund

Target Applicant: 18-28 year-olds who identify as Black, African/part of the Afro-Indigenous diaspora, are based in the United States, and are available to complete an interview the week of May 24, 2023 - May 31, 2023

The YBCL Fund supports young Black people who are taking initiative to dismantle the delusion of white supremacy and disrupt climate chaos. It will support a new generation of Black climate leaders to advance work and initiatives at the intersection of racial and environmental justice by supporting the power of leaders who advocate for community participation and reclamation of Indigenous ecological wisdom and practices of the African diaspora. Funding is available for new projects or initiatives already in motion that need additional support and may cover training, classes, workshops, certifications, education costs, the purchase of tools and equipment, etc. Projects must be completed in a community or group setting. **Applications are due May 5.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program

Target Applicant: Community-based nonprofit organizations, partnerships of community-based nonprofit organizations, partnerships between federally recognized Tribal governments and community-based nonprofit organizations, partnerships between institutions of higher education and community-based nonprofit organizations

The new Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking (EJ TCGM) Program is a competition to select multiple Grantmakers around the nation to reduce barriers to the federal grants application process communities face and increase the efficiency of the awards process for environmental justice grants. Grantmakers will design competitive application and submission processes, award environmental justice subgrants, implement a tracking and reporting system, provide resources and support to communities, all in collaboration with EPA's Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights. Application deadline May 31.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Infrastructure

USDA Community Facilities (CF) Direct Loan Program

Target Applicant: Municipal and Tribal Governments with no more than 20,000 residents

The CF Direct Loan Program provides affordable funding to develop essential community facilities. An essential community facility is defined as a facility that provides an essential service to the local community for the orderly development of the community. It must carry out a function customarily provided by a local unit of government. The facility must be located in a rural area and primarily serve rural

residents. Funding in the form of grants and low interest loans is available for rural areas including cities, villages, townships, and towns including Federally recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents. Contact your Regional Planning Office for more information. [LEARN MORE](#)

Land Conservation & Management

Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)

Target Applicant: Agricultural Producers

This annual funding program provides grants to support the development of new tools, approaches, practices and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands. Through creative problem solving and innovation, CIG partners work to address water quality, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while improving agricultural operations. Maine farms can apply for up to \$75,000. [For more information, contact your local NRCS office.](#) **Application Deadline is May 19.**

[LEARN MORE](#) and [APPLY](#)

Land for Maine's Future – Funding for Conservation of Working and Recreational Lands

Target Applicant: Private landowners, and trusts, municipal conservation commissions, local governments, private nonprofit charitable organizations, state agencies, and private foundations

The Land for Maine's Future (LMF) Board has announced the 2023 call for Farmland and Working Forest proposals. LMF has \$40 million in new funding for the conservation of working forests, farms, and commercial waterfronts, public access to woods and waters and the protection and management of wildlife, including deer wintering habitat.

[Working Forest / Conservation and Recreation Proposals](#)

May 19, 2023 - Inquiry Forms due no later than 5:00 PM.

August 4, 2023 - Final Proposals due no later than 5:00 PM.

[Working Farmland Proposals](#)

May 19, 2023 - Inquiry Forms due no later than 5:00 PM.

August 4, 2023 - Final Proposals due no later than 5:00 PM.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Land for Maine's Future – Funding for Public Access to Waters

Target Applicant: Private landowners, and trusts, municipal conservation commissions, local governments, private nonprofit charitable organizations, state agencies, and private foundations

The Public Access to Maine Waters Fund is designed to 'get people to the water.' The goal of the fund is to secure public access rights on small parcels of land to create or enhance access points to lakes, ponds, rivers, and coastal waters. Land for access could support a facility for trailered boats, or small, hand-launched craft (canoes, kayaks) and provide bank fishing, swimming, clamming, worming, or other water contact opportunities. Access is primarily intended for general public use. [LEARN MORE](#)

Resilience

Coastal Community Grant Program

Target Applicant: Communities, tribal governments, and unorganized territories with tidal waters in their boundaries, including offshore islands. Municipal applicants must have a locally adopted comprehensive plan or be enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership

Funding for local and regional projects that build community resiliency to adapt to a changing climate; prepare for flooding, sea level rise, coastal storms and storm surge, and shoreline erosion, and address land use activity impacts to water quality. Funds may be used for planning and development of feasibility and vulnerability studies, planning and development of regulatory and non-regulatory policies and programs, capital improvements planning, climate change outreach and education, public processes throughout the project, and development of funding strategies. Applications Due June 2 by 5:00 PM.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Shore and Harbor Planning Grant Program

Target Applicant: Municipalities, unorganized townships, and Tribal Governments in Maine's Coastal Zone, as well as coastal Regional Planning Commissions and coastal Councils of Government

Funding for shoreline access planning, waterfront and harbor planning, identification and resolution of waterfront use conflicts, and planning, feasibility, and design efforts for resilient waterfront infrastructure. Successful proposals will effectively consider how current and future projected sea level rise, storm surge, and flooding will affect the design life of waterfront facilities and the resilience of the land and water areas that are the focus of the project. Applications Due Friday, June 2 by 5:00 PM.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Community Heart & Soul Seed Grants

Target Applicant: Small city and town resident-driven groups in partnership with their municipality or local community organization

The Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program provides \$10,000 in funding for resident-driven groups in small cities and towns to start the Community Heart & Soul planning model. Community Heart & Soul is a resident-driven process that engages the entire population of a town in identifying what they love most about their community, what future they want for it, and how to achieve it. Grant funding requires a \$10,000 cash match from the participating municipality or a partnering organization.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Sea Level Rise

Island Institute's ShoreUp Grant

Target Applicant: Island and coastal municipalities, organizations, and businesses (pre-approval to apply is required; speak with the program contact listed below)

ShoreUp Grants offer funding support (up to \$10,000) for Maine island and coastal communities as they assess, implement, and/or plan for sea level rise. Sea level rise preparedness projects might include (but are not limited to): risk assessments, infrastructure and natural resource planning, and community engagement programs related to sea level rise. ShoreUp Grants provide flexible funding and support so that communities can plan for the assistance they need to start taking the steps that are right for them. [LEARN MORE](#) here and contact [Abby Roche](#) (701-200-2346) to discuss your project and application prior to submission.

Transportation

Request for information – MaineDOT and Efficiency Maine Seeking EV Charging Host Sites

Target Audience: Vendors of electric vehicle (EV) charging equipment and services, local governments and community organizations

MaineDOT and Efficiency Maine Seeking are seeking information on the placement of public level 2 and DC fast chargers for EVs through a Request for Information (RFI), which will inform the content of the state's grant application to the FHWA Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grant program and the statewide initiative to expand public charging infrastructure (called "Recharge Maine"). MaineDOT is planning to submit a single statewide grant application to the CFI program by May 30, 2023, with the expectation that funds would be available to communities in the latter half of 2023.

[RESPOND TO THE RFI](#)

[VIEW A FACT SHEET](#) with more information about Recharge Maine, the CFI grant program, and Maine's EV infrastructure plan.

Efficiency Maine Rural Level 2 EV Charging (EVI-FON-002-2023)

Target Applicant: Local governments, businesses, tribal governments, and nonprofits in rural Cumberland and York County

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers that are available to the public in rural communities in Cumberland and York Counties. This opportunity falls under Efficiency Maine's Electric Vehicle Initiatives and aims to expand public EV charging infrastructure in rural and remote areas in Maine. The goal of this round of funding is to assist rural communities in Cumberland and York County (excluding Portland, South Portland, and Westbrook) to enhance those communities' capacity to attract commerce and tourism and to serve local EV drivers 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. Application deadline is June 30, 2023.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Maine DOT Workforce Transportation Funding Opportunity

Target Applicant: Employers or groups of employers, municipalities, non-profit organizations, human service organizations, and public/private transportation providers

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

Target Applicant: Municipalities and Tribal Governments of communities where the village or downtown is located on a state or state aid road / highway

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. Working with other agencies, these communities should have access to broadband, as good internet connections are as important as physical connections are today. [LEARN MORE](#)

Maine DOT Municipal Partnership Initiative

Target Applicant: Municipalities and Tribal Governments of communities where the village or downtown is located on a state or state aid road / highway

MaineDOT's Municipal Partnership Initiative is intended to be a streamlined program to address municipal requests that deal with transportation infrastructure issues on state

and state aid highways, encourage economic opportunities, and make improvements to infrastructure to increase its life or correct safety deficiencies. [LEARN MORE](#)

Water / Stormwater / Wastewater

Wastewater Treatment Facility Climate Adaptation Planning Grants and Fiscal Sustainability Planning Grants

Target Applicant: Municipalities and quasi-municipal corporations

The Maine Clean Water State Revolving Fund provides \$50,000 grants to municipalities and quasi-municipal corporations (i.e. village corporations, sanitary, sewer & utility districts, etc.) for wastewater Fiscal Sustainability Plans (FSP) – asset management plans with a water component. Matching funds are required. Climate Adaptation Planning funds up to \$25,000 are also available to assess a wastewater system's resilience to climate hazards are also available without required matching funds. FMI contact Brandy Piers, Engineering Services Manager: brandy.m.piers@maine.gov or (207) 287-6093

[LEARN MORE](#)

Small Public Water System Emerging Contaminant Grants

Target Applicant: All community public water systems (except those regulated by the Public Utilities Commission), and all non-transient, non-community (NTNC) water systems

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Environmental and Community Health is offering grant funding for up to \$60,000 for small public water systems projects to mitigate PFAS contamination. Grants are up to \$50,000 with additional \$10,000 available for engineering fees. This grant is offered on a rolling basis. If PFAS contamination is a concern for your community, contact Bill Dawson at Maine Department of Health and Human Services to discuss your project:

William.Dawson@maine.gov or (207) 287-6196

[LEARN MORE](#)

EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS

Community Resilience Partnership Building Stronger Communities Online Learning Series

Target Audience: Community leaders and volunteers serving communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership, those currently enrolling, and those interested in enrolling

About

Building Stronger Communities Learning Opportunities are designed for community members and leaders of municipalities already enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership, those currently enrolling, as well as those interested in enrolling. The ongoing series covers a variety of topics, including specific guidance and funding opportunities for sea level rise, electrification, efficiencies, renewable energy, planning, stormwater management, green infrastructure, transportation, and more. The series highlights the successes and challenges of town-specific projects and provides a wide range of resources and tools to help enrolled and enrolling towns to build stronger communities.

Using the Series for Community Education

If you would like a customizable poster to use to promote a community engagement event during which you'll be showing a past recording, please contact [Gabe McPhail](#).

Past Topics and Recordings

Sea Level Rise From Understanding to Action, November 21, 2022

Introducing the Community Resilience Partnership, December 13, 2022

Climate Change From Understanding to Action, December 29, 2022

Funding Projects into the Future, January 10

\$125,000 Community Action Grants for Regional Projects, January 31

Efficiency Maine Incentives and Services for Municipal Energy Upgrades,
February 14

Landfill Solar, March 9

Building Stronger Communities – Municipal Broadband and Digital Equity, March
13

**Launching and Funding Transportation Projects with the Maine Department of
Transportation**, March 21

Municipal EV Development, April 11

Municipal Energy Generation April 26

[VIEW RECORDINGS OF PAST PRESENTATIONS HERE](#)

Building Stronger Communities – Municipal Solar Site Planning & Ordinance Development

Wednesday, May 3, 10:00 AM

Explore with Maine Farmland Trust's Abby Farnham and A Climate To Thrive's Solar Coordinator, Beth Woolfolk how towns can thoughtfully direct solar installations and manage them for the good of the entire community. This 60 minute meeting will consider: Why municipalities need to think about solar siting; Where solar investors prioritize development; What municipalities should consider when identifying ideal areas

of solar development; Explore the reasoning behind solar moratoriums; General guidelines for solar siting on farmland; Update on proposed state legislation to establish balance between supporting solar development and protecting agricultural resources; Provide sample town ordinances as case studies on municipal approaches to balanced solar siting. No registration required. Simply click this [ZOOM LINK](#) to join the presentation.

Economic Development

Summit on Maine's Economy & Climate Change

Target Audience: Businesses and business support organizations

In-person

Friday, May 19, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta, Maine

ClimateWork

How Climate Change will reshape Maine's Economy and what it means for the future of your business. [LEARN MORE](#)

Environmental Justice

VISION POWER SOLUTIONS: Participatory Policy Development 2.0

Target Audience: Facilitators/organizers/leaders/educators who are accountable to

Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities

Online

Tuesday, May 23, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM and Tuesday, June 6, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Workshop to build capacity for community-driven planning. Part of a larger effort to foster a facilitators' community of practice and referral network within the field of community-driven planning. Sponsored by People's Climate Innovation Center and Facilitating Power. The series content and approach is derived from the National Association of Climate Resilience Planners (NACRP) Community-Driven Resilience Planning Framework with input from the NACRP facilitators network, Advisors, and core partners.

[LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

Energy

The Missing Link: A Statewide Conference on Interconnection

Target Audience: Anyone in a position of local leadership, regardless of prior energy experience and knowledge

In-person

Thursday, June 22, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

University of Maine Hutchinson Center, Belfast, Maine
A Climate to Thrive (ACTT)

Join A Climate to Thrive and experts in the field of energy solutions for a statewide Interconnection Conference June 22nd at the Hutchens Center in Belfast from 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. The conference will gather community leaders from across Maine to share problems and solutions to current grid interconnection barriers to small-scale renewable energy. This conference is designed for anyone in positions of local leadership regardless of level of expertise and knowledge related to energy. We will be diving into essential information for anyone involved in municipal and state leadership as we explore solutions together. [LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

Free Online Electric Boat Course

Target Audience: General Audience ages 15+

Online

From the Island Institute, Kennebec Valley Community College, Mid-Coast School of Technology, Maine Electric Boat Company, and Bayside Marine

LEVEL 1 – ELECTRIC BOAT MOTOR: FOUNDATIONS

Requirements: This course is intended for a general audience, ages 15 and up. No prior marine engine experience needed, just a desire to learn about electric boats.

Description: This course provides an introduction to electric boats to help the general public and those already in the field gain an understanding of the benefits of electric boats and potential career opportunities in the sector. [LEARN MORE](#)

Forests and Gardens

Lawns Gone Wild: Edible Landscapes

Target Audience: General

In-person

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Prince Memorial Library, Cumberland, Maine

In this third session of the Lawns Gone Wild series, participants will learn that any landscape can incorporate an abundance of edible plants. Learn about a selection of styles, techniques and plants to turn your surroundings into an edible oasis. Speaker: Aaron Parker, Edgewood Nurseries in Falmouth.

Lawns Gone Wild is a yearlong sustainable backyard education series and is offered in collaboration with the Town of Cumberland's Sustainability Committee and Chebeague and Cumberland Land Trust.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Resilience

Bath Climate Conversations: Efficiency Maine's Residential Offerings

Target Audience: General

In-person and Online

Wednesday, May 3, 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Patten Free Library, 33 Summer Street, Bath, Maine

Fourth part of a continuing series at Patten Free Library in the Community Room. "Bath Climate Conversations" are focused on learning, discussing, and connecting around ways to sustain and support Bath as climate change occurs. For this talk, Bridget Gifford, program manager for Efficiency Maine, will discuss Efficiency Maine's residential offerings. Bridget will describe how homeowners can receive thousands of dollars in rebates for energy efficient upgrades. She will touch on topics like heat pumps, insulation, heat pump water heaters, and more.

[REGISTER](#) for Zoom only

2023 Communities Leading on Climate Conference

Target Audience: City, town, and tribal leaders as well as interested community members who wish to learn how their communities can take climate action

In-person

Thursday, May 11, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wells Conference Center, University of Maine, 131 Munson Road, Orono, Maine

The Community Resilience Partnership, a program of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future annual conference to highlight the actions and accomplishments of Partnership communities. Hear from community leaders from across Maine about all they've learned from their interesting and vital work.

Over three sessions, communities and service providers will illustrate the planning-to-implementation process. Speakers will discuss planning aspects including community outreach, equity, federal funding, and more.

Session 1: The Future of Transportation - Electrifying municipal fleets and public EV charging

Session 2: Modernizing Buildings - Energy efficiency and clean energy in municipal buildings

Session 3: Resilient Communities & Climate Ready Infrastructure - The building blocks of successful implementation

The program will also feature opportunities for small group discussions, networking, and information from state and federal partners about grants, technical assistance, and resources.

[LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

2030 Vision Climate Convergence

Target Audience: General

In Person

Friday, May 12 - Saturday, May 13

Norway Recreational Park, Norway, Maine

Center for an Ecology-Based Economy invites you to their fourth annual climate convergence! The two action-packed days will feature workshops, roundtable discussions and presentations, as well as great food, music, art and poetry to energize the urgent work of climate justice. Session topics range from addressing climate grief to building an ecology-based economy, with keynotes by Jonathan Fulford and Dr. Jacquelyn Gill. In this critical moment, as climate change accelerates and biodiversity is increasingly threatened, we also see unprecedented support for building community resilience and fighting for a liveable planet.

[LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

Opportunity to provide Feedback – Maine Climate Resilience Hub Survey

Target Audience: Anyone involved or interested in climate/resilience planning in Maine – volunteer committee members, municipal staff, organizations providing technical support to towns, etc.

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry's Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning is developing an interactive, online tool that is based on the Climate Adaptation and Resilience Outcomes Tool (CAROT), in partnership with The Nature Conservancy. Take a 5-minute anonymous survey to help design this interactive, online tool to help communities develop implementation metrics for climate planning.

[COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#)

Responding to Climate-Amplified Extreme Weather Events

Target Audience: Community Leaders, Service Providers

Online

Wednesdays May 3 and 17, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

This Series from the National Adaptation Forum aims to better prepare communities for climate-amplified extreme weather by showcasing approaches, plans, and

community-engagement strategies that are being used across the country. Extreme weather events can have devastating impacts on human communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems. Yet, these impacts will only worsen as extreme weather event frequency, severity, and duration are made worse by climate change and recovery times are shortened, limiting the ability of already resource-limited communities to prepare for the next event. Therefore, it is critical that extreme weather event preparedness and response are integrated into our climate adaptation strategies. This series will feature presentations focused on innovative approaches for minimizing the impacts of extreme storms.

[LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#) to attend

Local Leads the Way

Target Audience: Community members, community leaders

Online

First Monday of each month, 4:00 PM

Next Meeting is Monday, May 1

A Climate to Thrive (ACTT)

Local Leads the Way was developed and is hosted by [A Climate to Thrive \(ACCT\)](#). This monthly zoom gathering provides support to communities throughout the state who are engaged in community-driven, solutions-focused climate action. Local Leads the Way hosts monthly meetings open to anyone involved in or contemplating community-driven climate action. Through these meetings, participants share resources, build networks of support, participate in trainings, collaborate, and reduce duplication of effort. [LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#) to attend.

2023 Local Solutions: Climate Migration

Target Audience: Community climate leaders, educators, municipal and tribal government staff, anyone interested in learning more about climate migration

In-person

Tuesday, May 16 - Wednesday, May 17

Antioch University Center for Climate Preparedness and Community Resilience
Keene, New Hampshire

The goal of this convening is to build capacity for socially just and equitable migration and enhanced regional climate resilience. This gathering will be a culmination of the Northeast Safe and Thriving for All (NEST) project, funded by the NOAA Climate Adaptation Partnerships (formerly RISA) program to convene residents from across the upper Northeast region, with a focus on becoming a place that is resilient, revitalized, socially just, and decarbonized. [LEARN MORE](#) and [REGISTER](#)

Coffee & Climate: Aquaculture

Target Audience: General Audience

In Person

Thursday, May 11, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

The Hús, 68 Commercial Street, Portland, Maine

Join this month's Coffee & Climate "Gulf of Change: A Discussion on Climate Change and Resiliency in Maine's Aquaculture Industry". One Climate Future is collaborating with the New England Ocean Cluster to host a panel discussion on climate resilience in Maine's aquaculture industry and the opportunities in developing sustainable and resilient local food systems. Together, panelists Libby Davis (Lady Shuckers), Jesse Baines (Atlantic Sea Farms), Bill Needelman (City of Portland Waterfront Coordinator), and Peter Stocks (City of South Portland Harbor Commissioner) will share the ways they've learned to adapt and how the aquaculture industry is working to stem the tide of climate change in Casco Bay. Coffee & Climate is a monthly speaker series – hosted by Portland and South Portland Sustainability Offices – which breaks down a given sustainability or climate topic with the help of guest speakers. 2023 Coffee & Climate programming includes a range of topics including sustainability in the arts, aquaculture, plastics, environmental justice and more!

[REGISTER](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Where can you get help learning more about these opportunities?

Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) can contact their county-specific Region 1 Regional Coordinator. We are here to help you!

CRP Enrolled Communities in **York and Southern Oxford Counties** contact Karina Graeter at Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC)

kgraeter@smpdc.org (207) 571-7065

CRP Enrolled Communities in **Cumberland County** contact Sara Mills-Knapp at Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)

smills-knapp@gpcog.org (207) 664-8414

CRP Enrolled Communities in **Lincoln County** contact Emily Rabbe at Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission (LCRPC)

erabbe@lcrpc.org (207) 882-5983

CRP Enrolled Communities in **Sagadahoc and Knox Counties** contact Gabe McPhail

gabe@rcmaine.org (207) 952-1817

For general inquiries about support offered through the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) contact [Gabe McPhail](#).

Where can you find help if you are enrolling or unenrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership?

Enrolling communities can contact your Community Resilience Partnership Service Provider (if you have one), your Regional Planning Organization, or other community partners.

Unenrolled communities can contact your Regional Planning Organization:

Communities in **York and Southern Oxford Counties** contact Karina Graeter at Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC)
kgraeter@smpdc.org (207) 571-7065

Communities in **Cumberland County** contact Sara Mills-Knapp at Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)
smills-knapp@gpcog.org (207) 664-8414

Communities in **Lincoln County** contact Emily Rabbe at Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission (LCRPC)
erabbe@lcrpc.org (207) 882-5983

Communities in **Sagadahoc and Knox Counties** contact Meg Rasmussen at Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG)
Mrasmussen@midcoastcog.com (207) 209-4129

For general inquiries about joining the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) contact [Gabe McPhail](#) or [LEARN MORE](#).