



## **Renewable Energy Options for Agricultural Producers and Rural Small Businesses**

**Hosted by: Sunrise County Economic Council**

### **Workshop Agenda**

**Friday, May 11, 2018**

**3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunrise County Economic Council**

**7 Ames Way, Machias, ME 04654**

**3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Grants and Loans for Renewable Energy Systems:** Jennifer Brennan, Energy Projects Manager, Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG)

**Topics include:**

- Free Technical Assistance for project development (including a site visit to your farm or business and pre-feasibility report including ROI and payback timeframes)
- Competitive grants that fund up to 25% of projects costs
- Guaranteed loans backed by USDA up to 75%
- Successful project examples including ROI data

**3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Opportunities for Solar on the Farm or at a Small Business: What Financing and Policy Options Can Be Utilized Together, and When?:** Rich Roughgarden, Principal, Maine Solar Engineering

**Topics include:**

- Solar power technology and benefits
- Net energy billing – what's the latest in Maine?
- Federal investment tax credits

**4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Farm Services Agency (FSA) Resources for Farmers:** Susan Hatton, Loan Program Manager, Sunrise County Economic Council (SCEC)

**Topics include:**

- Farm Services Agency (FSA) loan programs
- Sunrise County Economic Council loan programs

**4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Networking and Refreshments**