

TRAININGS & RESOURCES

Energy

Homeowner's Inflation Reduction Act Savings Calculator

Calculate how much you can be saving from the Inflation Reduction Act based on zip code, homeowner status, and household size and income. [VIEW CALCULATOR HERE](#)

Solar Energy Guides for Homeowners, Business Owners, and Nonprofits

These guides from A Climate to Thrive (ACTT) provides homeowners, business owners, and nonprofits with important information to help them critically evaluate their options for going solar.

- Homeowners' Guide to Solar Energy [DOWNLOAD](#)
- Business Owner's Guide to Solar Energy [DOWNLOAD](#)
- Nonprofit Guide to Solar Energy [DOWNLOAD](#)

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](#)

Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap

The Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap outlines strategies for Maine to benefit from offshore wind, while preserving Gulf of Maine communities, fisheries, and wildlife. The Roadmap is a stakeholder-driven comprehensive plan that offers detailed strategies for Maine to realize economic, energy, and climate benefits from offshore wind, in conjunction with communities, fisheries, and wildlife of the Gulf of Maine. View [HERE](#).

Agriculture

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](#)

Funding

Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook for Municipal Leaders

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) is the largest investment in climate action ever made by the United States. This guidebook details the major programs that fund local government directly, those available to community-based organizations, programs administered through states, as well as the consumer and business tax credits. For each, it describes what the funding can be used for, how it will flow, and the process and timeline for accessing resources. [VIEW](#) and [DOWNLOAD](#) the Guide

Demystifying the Language of Climate Resilience Financing – New England Environmental Finance Center Financial terms and industry jargon can cause confusion and create barriers for small

municipalities, tribes, nonprofits, and other community groups seeking financing. This guide clarifies key financial terms and industry jargon with simple definitions and real life examples to address information gaps and share innovative options to pay for climate resilience needs. [VIEW THE GUIDE HERE](#)

Funding and Financing Coastal Resilience

NOAA Office for Coastal Management – Digital Coast Online pre-recorded four-part workshop series to help build foundational knowledge about funding and financing approaches used to support coastal resilience activities. Hear from experts, who will demystify this complex topic by sharing traditional and emerging approaches, project examples, and lessons learned, and by answering your questions. Each workshop is 90 minutes long. [VIEW HERE](#)

Funding Nature Based Solutions Website

FundingNatureBasedSolutions.nwf.org from the National Wildlife Federation is a microsite that aims to easily connect community planners and other stakeholders with sources of federal funding for infrastructure projects that incorporate natural elements. The site allows users to search and sort the more than 70 types of federal grants that fund nature-based restoration solutions based on factors such as eligible recipients, project purpose, and the match required. The website will be updated regularly as the funding sources available evolve. [VIEW HERE](#)

Green Infrastructure

National Nature-Based Solutions Roadmap

Building on both the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, this Roadmap outlines strategic recommendations to update policies, provide funding, lead by example, train the workforce, and support research and innovation to promote implementation of nature-based solutions. [VIEW THE ROADMAP HERE](#)

Living Shorelines Engineering Guidelines

The objective of this document is to provide guidance to the engineering and regulatory community on the engineering components involved in the design of living shorelines projects. [VIEW THE GUIDELINES HERE](#)

Resilience & Climate Action

Local Leads the Way Monthly Zoom Gathering

Online, first Monday of each month, 4:00 PM. Next Meeting is Monday, July 3. 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.

Community Resilience Partnership Building Stronger Communities Online Learning Series

Recordings of learning opportunities 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. Presentation topics range from sea level rise, grant opportunities, electrification,

municipal solar, and many more. New recordings are being added regularly. [VIEW RECORDINGS OF PAST PRESENTATIONS HERE](#)

The Mainers' Guide to Climate Incentives

This new guide from the Maine Climate Council outlines current rebates and tax credits for climate plan-aligned investments such as high-efficiency heat pumps, electric vehicles, renewable energy, and more, available through the federal Inflation Reduction Act and, on the state level, Efficiency Maine. [VIEW THE GUIDE HERE](#)

2023 Edition of the Maine Community Resilience Workbook

A Maine-based framework and how-to guide for climate change assessment, collective climate action, and achieving community resilience outcomes. [DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

Centering Equity in Climate Resilience Planning and Action

From Antioch University Center for Climate Preparedness & Community Resilience, this synthesis paper introduces and amplifies principles and best practices for centering equity in climate resilience planning and action. The audience is primarily users of the U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit and its Steps to Resilience. [LEARN MORE AND DOWNLOAD THE PAPER HERE](#)

Maine Climate Adaptation Providers Network

Compilation of resources and tools for climate preparedness in Maine. [VIEW HERE](#)

Water, Wastewater, & Stormwater

Working Waterfront Inventory Template

From the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association and Tidal Bay Consulting, the Working Waterfront Inventory Template is a tool for towns to collect baseline data on working waterfront locations, infrastructure, and the local economic impact of fisheries and aquaculture. [LEARN MORE](#) and [DOWNLOAD](#) the template and other resources.

Sea Level Rise Community Engagement Tools

The Island Institute has created multiple resources to help engage and guide communities to become more resilient to sea level rise. Learn more about sea level rise in Maine, its impacts on coastal communities, and some of the steps being taken to increase resilience on the Island Institute's website. [VIEW HERE](#)

Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual

From Maine Department of Environmental Protection, a manual to assist communities, watershed groups, individuals, engineers, and developers in understanding stormwater impacts and to select appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) to manage stormwater from development, in accordance with the Maine DEP's Chapter 500 Stormwater Management Rules. [VIEW HERE](#)

Transportation

Maine DEP's Gravel Road Maintenance Practices Certification Course

In-person Thursday, July 20, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM Denny Conservation & Education Center, 3 Round Top Lane, Damariscotta, Maine. Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District and Maine DEP are co-

sponsoring a four and a half-hour classroom and field event hosted by Coastal Rivers Conservation. This class qualifies for 4 Continuing Education Hours (CEH) for individuals Certified in Erosion Control Practices by Maine DEP. Pre-registration with payment of \$95 (mail-in registration) / \$98 (online registration) is required by Friday, July 14. For more information, contact Knox-Lincoln SWCD office at (207) 596-2040, julie@knox-lincoln.org. [LEARN MORE AND REGISTER HERE](#)

EV Charging Stations Installation Guide

This guide provides information for commercial, government, and institutional property owners who are assessing whether, where, and how to install Level 2 Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on their property. [VIEW GUIDE](#)

Maine Clean Communities

A government/industry partnership, coordinated by the U.S. Department of Energy and administered by the Greater Portland Council of Governments working to expand the use of alternative fuels, domestically-produced transportation fuels and energy-efficient vehicle technologies. Maine Clean Communities provides resources to both public and private stakeholders. [LEARN MORE](#)

Maine Department of Transportation Projects Storymap

Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) has developed a media-rich, interactive story map for municipalities and the general public describing MDOT's three-year Work Plan for statewide infrastructure. 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](#)

Free Online Electric Boat Course

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

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Energy

Funding for Small Municipality Retrofits HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting and refrigeration projects in small Maine municipality and tribal government buildings. Applications due August 31, 2023. [LEARN MORE](#)

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)

Federal grants to assist states, local governments, and Tribes in implementing strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, and to improve energy efficiency. Maine's 10 most populous Counties and Cities are eligible for formula grant funding through the EECBG. For all other communities, competitive federal grants are available. Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) may contact CRP Regional Coordinator Co-lead Karina Greater (kgreater@smpdg.org) for guidance. [LEARN MORE](#)

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

Two federal tax credits are available: The investment tax credit (ITC) 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. 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. Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in Region 1 may contact R1CC Co-lead Karina Greater (kgreater@smpdg.org) for guidance. [LEARN MORE](#)

Low-Cost Solar Loans for Businesses

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](#)

Clean Energy Spark! Grants

The Spark! Clean Energy Program at the Island Institute is currently funding working waterfront energy projects that improve energy efficiency, support the switch to renewable energy, and/or reduce consumption of fossil fuels. Applicants can receive up to \$4,000 per fiscal year. For profit businesses must provide matching funds for applications. [LEARN MORE and APPLY](#). For assistance, contact Kate Klibansky at the Island Institute, Kklibansky@islandinstitute.org.

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

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.

Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) – Fixed Award Grant Program

This program is designed to support small community-driven clean energy projects from \$500,000 to \$5 million. Applicants must submit a Pre-Application by July 13. Technical assistance from the Department of Energy's national laboratories is available by filling out a form [HERE](#) for pre-application preparation. [LEARN MORE](#) about this funding opportunity. Communities enrolled in the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) in Region 1 may contact Gabe McPhail (gabe@rcmaine.org) for guidance.

Clean Energy Projects on Former Mine Land – Technical Assistance Grants

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is providing technical assistance to communities and organizations interested in pursuing clean energy projects on current and former mine land. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. For questions contact CEML.TA@nrel.gov. [LEARN MORE](#)

Transportation

Maine DOT Municipal Partnership Initiative 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](#)

Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative

Funding and support available for any Maine village or downtown on a state or state-aid highway where a community has a vision for significant improvements to lower-speed areas that are or could become a community center. Contact SMPDC Senior Transportation Planner, Dean Williams (dwilliams@smpdc.org), to learn more. [LEARN MORE](#)

Workforce Transportation Funding Opportunity

Aims to pursue and develop transportation solutions that connect workers with employers across Maine. 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. All requests for financial assistance should be submitted electronically to MaineDOT Policy Development Specialist Ryan Neal (ryan.k.neale@maine.gov). [LEARN MORE](#)

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

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](#)

Resilience

Community Resilience Partnership Community Action Grants

The Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future (GOPIF) is pleased to announce the opening of a third round of grant opportunities for municipal and tribal governments and unorganized territories through the [Community Resilience Partnership](#) (CRP). Community Action Grants enable eligible communities to implement projects that reduce energy use and costs, transition to clean energy, and make communities in Maine more resilient to climate change. Applications due July 7. [LEARN MORE](#) & [DOWNLOAD APPLICATIONS](#)

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

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](#)

Island Institute's ShoreUp Grants

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. Contact Abby Roche (aroche@islandinstitute.org, 701-200-2346) to discuss your project and application prior to submission. [LEARN MORE](#)

Small Public Water System Emerging Contaminant Grants

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](#)

USDA Community Facilities (CF) Direct Loan Program

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](#)