

TRAININGS & RESOURCES

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](#)

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](#)

Community Resilience Partnership Building Stronger Communities Online Learning Series

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. Upcoming webinar:

- Building Stronger Communities – Municipal Solar Site Planning & Ordinance Development
Wednesday, May 3, 10:00 AM – 11:00 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. No registration required. Simply click this [ZOOM LINK](#) to join the presentation.

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
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](#)

2023 Communities Leading on Climate Conference

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. Registration, meals, and speaker information coming soon.

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](#)

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

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](#).

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](#)

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](#)

Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual

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](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Coastal Community Planning Grants

The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry's Municipal Planning Assistance Program (MPAP) is seeking applications for a new round of Coastal Community Grants (CCG). CCG applications are due Friday, June 2, 2023, by 5:00 pm. [LEARN MORE](#)

Shore and Harbor Planning Grants

Maine Coastal Program is currently seeking applications for a new round of coastal planning grants for FY2024. Shore and Harbor Planning Grants support municipal and regional projects in Maine's Coastal Zone. Proposals are due on Friday, June 2, 2023, at 5:00 pm. [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](#)

Land for Maine's Future (LMF) Funding for Conservation of Working and Recreational Lands 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. Inquiry Forms due May 19. [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](#)

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

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: May 19. [LEARN MORE](#) and [APPLY](#)

Young Black Climate Leaders (YBCL) Futures Fund

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

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](#)

Regional Food System Partnership (RFSP) Grant Program

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. Application deadline is **May 2**. [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](#)

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](#)

Funding for School Retrofits HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting and refrigeration projects in Maine schools. Applications due May 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](#)

Energy Transitions Initiative Partnership Project (ETIPP)

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](#)

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](#)

Belvedere Historic Preservation and Energy Efficiency Energy Audit Grants

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. Deadline is June 1. [LEARN MORE](#)